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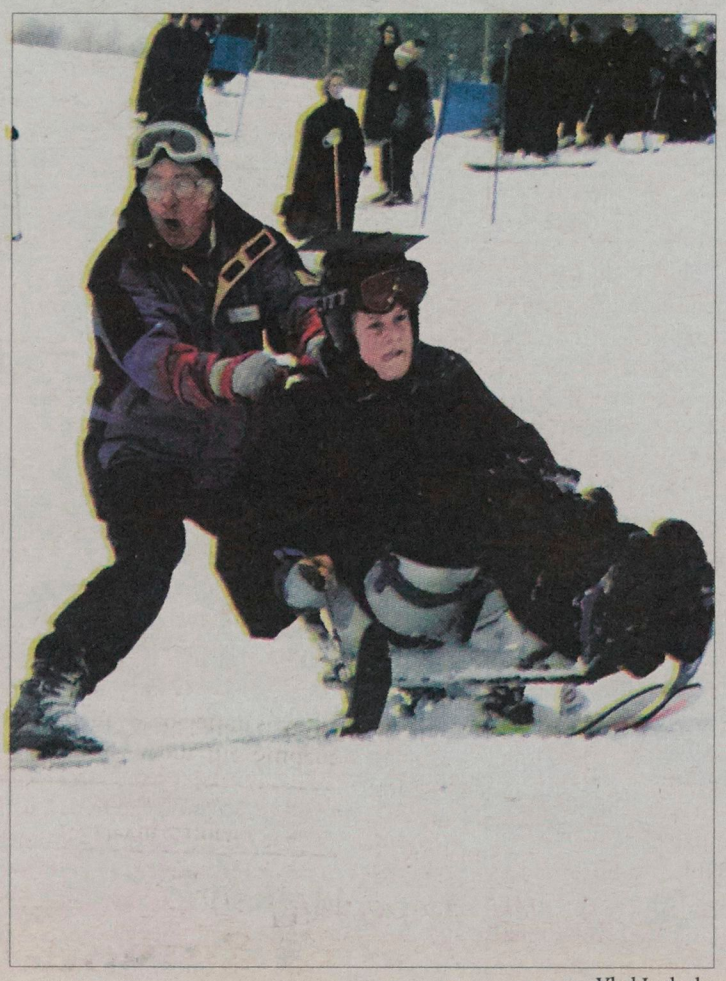
Men's Hockey Stutters at Amherst, Keeps Unbeaten Streak Alive page 24

The Middlebury Campus

VOL. 101 NO. 12 | WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2003 | SINCE 1905

One Last Run



Vlad Lodoaba

Katie Sampson '02.5 navigates the slopes of the Snow Bowl at the Ski Down Celebration for mid-year graduates on Feb. 1.

Weak Economy Prompts College to Shave $11 Million Off Budget

By Jonathan White
Editor-in-Chief

In a letter released to the Middlebury College community today, the Executive Council detailed its recommendations for cut-backs in College programs to correct the gap between endowment revenues and expenditures. The document slices $11 million off the College's operating budget for 2005.

The Council has been working since the fall to address poor endowment performance coming on the heels of a national economic downturn.

The Council has submitted its recommendations to President John McCardell. The Budget and Finance Committee of the Board of Trustees will review the proposal this weekend.

Prominent changes resulting from cutbacks will be the loss of Winter Term off-campus study courses in the immediate future and a reduction in funds for building maintenance and modernization.

The Council obtained suggestions from faculty and department heads for scaling back their respective expenditures. After gathering these suggestions, the Council proceeded to identify several overriding principles.

President John McCardell said that these principles revolved exclusively around the needs of staff and students.

Accordingly, for students, foremost among the guiding principles was seeing that the College preserve its need-blind admissions policy and its guarantee of full financial aid.

The second principle is that academic excellence remains at the core of what Executive Vice President and Provost Ron Liebowitz described as the "concentric circles" of Middlebury's programs and missions.

A third and significant priority in addressing the resource gap is that the College retains its commitment to the community. McCardell pledged last fall that budget cutbacks would not result in layoffs. When confronted with a similar crisis in the early 1990s, the College laid off employees, resulting in fallout in the community.

The fourth principle guiding the Council's final recommendation was to ensure that elements closest to the core of Middlebury's academic program remain intact. It also stipulated that superfluous programs be reconsidered.

In light of this fourth principle, the report calls for the suspension of off-campus courses during Winter Term. Liebowitz said that he is a fan of Winter Term off-campus study, although he commented that if this was the one area of the academic program that had to undergo cuts, doing so would still protect the College's "core academic program."

Liebowitz noted that as the College remains committed to the principle of providing full financial aid to students studying on an off-campus course during Winter Term, these classes had become a significant expenditure for the College to finance. "Because of our commitment to covering the full costs of the courses

(see Council, page 2)

Smoking Policy Stagnates in Community Council

Body Divided on How to Regulate Smoking in Residential Spaces

By Devin Zatorski
Managing Editor

A proposal from the Student Government Association's Taskforce on Smoking Policy stalled in Community Council discussions Monday when the body split over how to govern smoking in residence halls.

The stalemate came after the Taskforce surveyed 631 students about their preferences. The data — collected during Winter Term at Ross, Proctor and Freeman Dining Halls — revealed that 32 percent of surveyed students supported a ban while 39 percent registered opposition. Just 16 percent desired smoke-free residence halls and the remaining 13 percent recommended that each hallway decide by majority vote of its residents.

Based on its findings the Taskforce proposed that each hallway vote at the beginning of the academic year on whether students may smoke in their rooms, provided they have the consent of their roommates and the residents of neighboring rooms. Smoking would remain banned in lounges, bathrooms, stairwells and other public areas, as mandated by Vermont state law.

Senior Senator and Community Council Member Fahim Ahmed '03, who chaired the Taskforce, said, "The proposal retains the flexibility of the current policy and formalizes the way policy is effectively decided in most halls already."

Student Co-chair of Community Council LaBolt also threw his support behind the proposal, labeling it a "respect-your-neighbor bill that reflects the spirit of Middlebury."

Community Council deliberations reached an impasse Monday despite the SGA Senate's unanimous endorsement of the Taskforce's proposal in late January. The Council, however, must achieve consensus on the issue and then submit revised policy language to President John McCardell.

Discussion faltered in part because some Council members worried that the Taskforce's survey did not accurately reflect the will of the student body.

"I'm concerned about the survey and whether it reflects what people are actually feeling," said Executive

(see Future, page 4)

GPA Decision Reflects Evolution of Study Abroad

By Claire Bourne
Associate Editor

News Analysis

The faculty's recent decision to figure all study abroad marks into student grade point averages (GPA) is one piece of a much larger puzzle that came together last fall when the Educational Affairs Committee (EAC) drafted a comprehensive report addressing study abroad policy. The six-part document offered an overview of the College's study abroad practices and presented recommendations intended to tailor rules governing Junior year abroad to recent trends in overseas study.

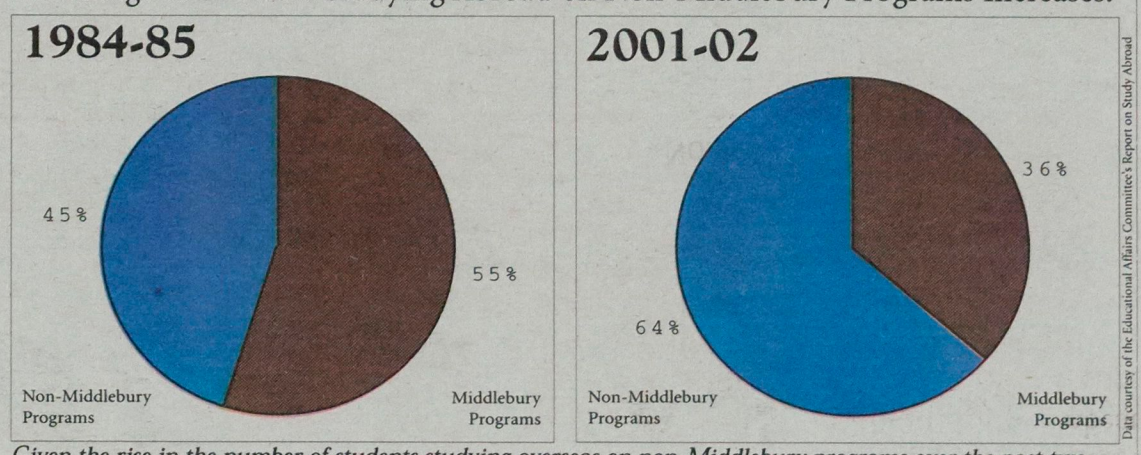
Middlebury College's study abroad program has evolved by leaps and bounds over the past two decades. Not only are more students spending half or all of their third year off the College's Vermont campus, but many of them are traveling to countries and institutions that did not factor into the study abroad picture in the early 80s. According to the EAC report, 106 students studied at Middlebury programs and 88 chose non-Middlebury programs during the 1984-85 academic year. Last year, 63.6 percent of Juniors studying abroad embarked on non-Middlebury programs while 36.4 percent attended C.V. Starr-Middlebury Schools Abroad.

The increased number of study abroad options, while seemingly embraced by students, has raised concern among the faculty that some of their advisees are attending foreign universities about which the College knows relatively little. Consequently, the faculty argues, it is difficult to hold these institutions accountable for the level of education Middlebury students receive there. Requiring all study abroad grades to be factored into students' GPAs is one attempt to ensure that those studying overseas, and especially those who do not fall under the purview of a Middlebury program, take the academic dimension of their experience seriously.

In the early 80s, students wishing to study in an English-speaking country found themselves in the British Isles. Today, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa have become red-hot destinations, a development that has some questioning students' reasons for traveling to these southern hemisphere nations. Director of Off-Campus Study David Macey confirmed that, while academic performance of those

(see Grades, page 4)

Percentage of Students Studying Abroad on Non-Middlebury Programs Increases.



Given the rise in the number of students studying overseas on non-Middlebury programs over the past two decades, the faculty's decision to factor all study abroad grades into students' GPAs is significant.

COLLEGE shorts

By Andrea Gissing
News Editor

Sounding Off Against SUVs

A group of students from Stanford University is starting a campaign to raise awareness of the contributions made by sport utility vehicles (SUVs) to environmental and political problems. The campaign, named "SUV SOS," plans to educate faculty and students about automobile consumption and especially SUV oil consumption among the Stanford and broader national community by tying it to global climate change and dependence on foreign oil.

Seniors Jonathan Neril and Josh Bushinsky, an international relations major and an earth systems major respectively, are leading the campaign.

Neril thought that the issue of SUV use was especially pertinent to the university community because of the large number of SUVs owned and driven by Stanford students. "We want to make people aware that SUV consumption is a national security issue and a global environment issue, not just a personal choice," Neril said.

"The idea is that the technology to make these cars more efficient is out there and it's been sitting on the shelves for decades," said Bushinsky, continuing that since the automotive industry has focused on things like car size and horsepower instead of emissions, there has been a decline in average fuel efficiency since the late 80s. He has been amazed by the student response that the campaign has had since the group's first meeting on Jan. 29.

So far, the group has concentrated on gathering student attention through e-mails. They are currently planning a protest on Feb. 14 at the Burlingame auto mall where students will try and raise media attention through speeches, chants and spoken-word protests.

Source: U-Wire.com

Modern Technique Mixes Things Up

Stephen Webber, a professor of music production and engineering at the Berklee College of Music in Boston, has been trying to integrate a more modern musical style into the college's curriculum: turntablism. Webber has designed a course that would teach students the technical and musical basics of hip-hop turntable techniques, which involves manipulating a record against the needle to create percussive sounds and beats.

The college turned down the idea of the Class in 2000 because the provost disapproved and again in 2001 when the executive vice president rejected it because of budget constraints.

Despite the opposition to the course, Webber wrote and published "Turntable Technique: The Art of the DJ," the first musical method book for aspiring hip-hop DJs. He used interviews, photographs and traditional musical notation to create a series of lessons and exercises that anyone wishing to learn could practice. The book became one of Berklee Press' best-selling titles, which encouraged college's administrators to reconsider the course.

If Berklee approves the course, it will be the first hip-hop performance class to be offered at a conservatory, applying Western notation and theory to an oral tradition. Courses on hip-hop music and culture have become increasingly common at colleges in the past 10 years. However, they are predominantly cultural or analytic in their approach, not instructional or practical.

Source: *The New York Times*

Harvard To Return Donation From Jane Fonda

Harvard University has announced that because of the continued downturn in the stock market, along with new university rules regarding research centers, it would return most of a donation that Jane Fonda pledged to the Graduate School of Education. The $12.5 million donation, which was made two years ago, was going towards the establishment of a major research center on sex and education. The university is also giving up its plans for the center. The decision to discontinue the project and return the donation was a mutual decision between Harvard and Fonda.

A spokeswoman for the School of Education said that Harvard would return a large portion of the $6.5 million that Fonda had already given to the university. The stock market slump has also prevented Fonda from completing the second half of the gift.

The portion of the donation that will be kept by the university will be used to support a curriculum development project that will address teachers' understanding of sex, race and class, and the impact those have on the educational experience of students.

Fonda's donation was the largest single donation in the Graduate School of Education's 83-year history.

Source: *The New York Times*

Quote of the Week: I am quite confident that the academic reputation of Middlebury College will remain intact despite curtailment of off-campus Winter Term courses.

—President John McCardell

Midd Briefs

Middlebury Lags in Diversity

By Nicolas Emery
News Editor

The Journal of Blacks in Higher Education (JBHE) ranked Middlebury College 20th out of the nation's top 24 academically rated liberal arts colleges with regards to its comparative success in integrating African-Americans into its faculty and student body.

The JBHE used data compiled during the past 10 years to produce the comprehensive diversity ranking of the nation's top colleges. The JBHE compiled data from government sources and original research, ranking the schools in 13 categories including black enrollments, black student yield, and black percentage of total faculty.

Amherst College garnered the first place in the rankings, followed by Williams College and Colgate University.

According to the JBHE Web site, only 2.2 percent of students and 2.4 percent of faculty at Middlebury College are African-American, which explains the College's low rating.

The JBHE rankings are not without their limitations. Most of the institutions ranked are small colleges and the addition or loss of a few faculty members may significantly affect the percentage and the institution's place in the rankings.

Although the College ranked 20th on the JBHE list, it is interesting to note that the first African-American to graduate from an institution of higher education in the United States graduated from Middlebury in 1823.

White House Passes Over Poets, Parini

By Edward Pickering
News Editor

First Lady Laura Bush has indefinitely postponed a poetry symposium originally to be held at the White House Feb. 12 after learning several of the poets invited were planning to speak out against the impending war with Iraq. Middlebury College's D. E. Axinn Professor of Creative Writing Jay Parini received an invitation and, like many of his fellow poets, welcomed the opportunity to protest the war through verse.

Parini began composing poetry for the event but held off once informed of its postponement. He has since conducted numerous interviews about the symposium's collapse. On Feb. 11, Vermont Public Radio broadcast an interview with Parini in which he read a prepared commentary.

Parini and the other invitees received an e-mail from Sam Hamill, a poet who refused the First Lady's invitation, urging them to write poetry against the war. Said Parini on-air, "I was sympathetic to Hamill's cause, and got to work on something myself. The prospect of Mrs. Bush listening to the voice of poetry seemed like a decent notion."

In his commentary Parini cited poets in our nation's history who have engaged political issues of the their day. For example, Walt Whitman wrote against the injustice of slavery and the brutality of war, among other topics. Parini noted that at the outset of the Second World War W.H. Auden "contemplated the approaching devastation" and he quoted, " 'All I have is a voice / To undo the folded lie.' "

That Parini takes the sentiment of Auden to heart is evident from his assertion,"It is this voice, with its eerie freedom, that poets have always cherished, and for which we cherish them."

First Chance Dance

Vlad Lodoaba

Getting their first taste of college nightlife, *Febs flock to a McCullough dance party.*

Council Outlines Fiscal Recommendations

(continued from page 1)

for any student on financial aid, these are very expensive courses," Liebowitz said.

President McCardell said of the temporary suspension of off-campus Winter Term study options, "I am quite confident that the academic reputation of Middlebury College will remain intact despite curtailment of off-campus Winter Term courses."

In addition to these changes to academic programs, the Snow Bowl shuttle service will now run only on weekends. Other cuts will reduce large, all-campus celebrations and events, such as outside dining events during the spring and fall.

Overtime pay for employees will be reduced by ten percent, while academic departments will see cut-backs for travel, printing and office supplies.

Allocations for the maintenance and modernization of College facilities will undergo a $1 million budget reduction. Liebowitz said that although this change might be somewhat noticeable given that Middlebury has been one of the top five out of 100 schools in terms of the condition of its buildings after audits of physical infrastructure, the College will stay in the top-tier of schools.

McCardell said that in the past year the maintenance budget was actually under-spent and called the current allocation "quite generous."

Liebowitz said that the College's current building projects will not be affected by the budget revisions because the construction costs of those projects come from the capital budget and not the operating budget. The decision to continue with construction was made last February regardless of the endowment performance.

"The overall scheme, from the board's approach to the Executive Council's work with their respective departments and colleagues, represents an enlightened approach," Liebowitz affirmed.

With the proposed modifications in endowment spending, Liebowitz said that for the fiscal year 2005, the gap between revenues and expenditures will be zero, whereas without the recommended changes, the gap would have been somewhere around $11 million.

New Nightlife at The Juice Bar

By Christopher Atwood
Staff Writer

Concerned about an increase in local D.U.I violations, the Student Government Association (SGA) recently devised an initiative aimed at enticing students of age to stay on campus. To counter the draw of off-campus social events, which could raise the likelihood of drunk driving, the SGA has petitioned the Grille to consider more student ideas, increase programming options and offer a wider selection of drafts at competitive prices.

Though initially wary of revamping The Juice Bar into a "pub-like" atmosphere, SGA President Ginny Hunt '03 says that few other spaces on campus were suitable for serving alcohol. The initiative, stressed Hunt, will be "on trial" during the coming months as the College evaluates how students feel about the changes and monitors the effects on alcohol citations and student behavior.

"We are taking all feedback seriously and there has not been a negative response so far," said Hunt, "but I want to remind students that this is really a community policy that is open to modification, and they should definitely give their opinions."

Under the policy changes, performances will be allowed between 10 p.m. and 2 a.m. Later in the evenings, the lights will be dimmed and the volume turned up a notch. The price of Otter Creek drafts, previously $3.25, has been cut to $2.50, which is comparable to those of downtown Middlebury bars. Additionally, The Juice Bar bartender will now be able to set individual drink limits, similar to local drinking establishments. Instead of selling only Otter Creek, the varieties of beer will rotate, highlighting Vermont's microbreweries, according to Grille Manager Steve Reigle.

Reigel stressed that, as the students' social space, The Grille must balance and satisfy a variety of needs, creating an environment that does not exclude anyone.

"The Grille has to suit a number of demands. There are a lot of students who would want to have a pub-like space on campus. Then again, there is a significant slice of the student body that is underage. What we're forced to do is engage both of these needs," Reigel said. "It's important that The Grille continue to function for our regular customers who aren't here for a pub-night. We're trying to never exclude any single group. While we could do 21 and over, that would exclude more students than that would include. Both of these claims need to co-exist in the same space."

As part of her SGA presidential campaign, Hunt mulled over the idea of converting Lower Proctor into a pub. At the time, the dining hall was going offline and had yet to be allocated for other purposes. Ultimately, the College offered Lower Proctor to the Theater department, causing Hunt to reconsider other potential venues. After weighing the options with the administration, Hunt concluded that few spaces could accommodate a "pub."

Vlad Lodoaba

Sounds of funk fill The Grille to bid farewell to Febs. The SGA hopes to foster a pub-like atmosphere around the Juice Bar.

The Grille was already serving alcohol. Indeed, according to Hunt, some in the administration were behind changing The Grille, in part, to satisfy the demands of pub. Starting this fall, the SGA began assessing the feasibility of any policy shifts designed to change the Grille's ambiance.

"We did a small survey to see how [students] would feel about changes. Also, because the SGA office is in McCullough, I would stop by a few times a night between 11 p.m. and 2 a.m. to see how The Grille was being used. More often than not, few people were in The Grille, and students rarely drank there," said Hunt.

In order to test the response to the new policies, in the upcoming months, the SGA will host or co-host four events at The Grille. Free pizza sticks will accompany a McCullough dance party the SGA plans to sponsor with MCAB this weekend. Additionally, the SGA has planned an alumni and student event to be held March 8.

Reigel was quick to note that, though part of the shift is designed to open up The Grille to students who wish to drink on campus, a major goal still is to draw in a wide-variety of students and groups.

The Grille, Reigel said, should be available to meet students' shifting demands, whether that be catering to co-sponsored events or individual customers.

"The Grille is a student space. What students wanted four years ago and today may be different. We are seeking to open up the space for just about anything. There are a lot more events that would be great for The Grille. If you want to hold your event in The Grille, come in and talk to us."

Chisholm '03 Captures Grand Prize with Essay

By Tom Drescher
Staff Writer

Rob Chisholm '03 was recently awarded the grand prize in the Ohio State University National Undergraduate Essay Contest in Agricultural, Environmental and Development Economics for his paper on the resource management system of a lobster-fishing community in Nova Scotia, his native province.

Chisholm wrote the paper, "Drawing the Line: Informal Property Rights in a Nova Scotia Lobster Fishery," last spring for an environmental economics class taught by Jonathan Isham, Assistant Professor of Economics.

Immediately impressed with the structure and content of Chisholm's essay, Isham suggested that he submit the paper to Ohio State's national contest.

Economic literacy, relevance of the problem, creativity, evidence of strong research, and conclusions derived from analysis were some of the factors considered by the judges.

According to Isham, Chisholm's essay was already stellar as a first draft but with some fine-tuning it merited the grand prize in Ohio State's prestigious contest.

This distinction, shared with a student from the University of Michigan, earned Chisholm half of a $1,500 prize and a $250 prize for winning his category. Chisholm drew heavily on his experience growing up in a small town in Nova Scotia to write his essay. "Where I'm from, in Nova Scotia, you're either a lobster fisherman or a relative of a lobster fisherman," said Chisholm.

Chisholm describes the system utilized in his community as a "common pool" resource system. Through informal rules and cooperation, fishermen are assigned property rights to fish in certain areas, thus minimizing the potential for over-fishing.

Chisholm's essay explains the conditions under which a common pool system can promote both sustainability and profitability, using the lobster-fishing village in Nova Scotia as a practical example.

> Chisholm's essay explains the conditions under which a common pool system can promote both sustainability and profitability, using the lobster-fishing village in Nova Scotia as a practical example.

Chisholm, an environmental studies major, went on to write his thesis on the same subject. He has since received a scholarship to research material in Nova Scotia relating to his thesis.

Chisholm hopes to study resource management around the world and eventually take part in Canadian policy-making. He emphasizes the impact of policies on individuals and small communities.

"The lobster fishermen back in Nova Scotia work hard and well with their community toward preserving their resources for its future," explained Chisholm. "Policy must recognize that kind of work at the grass roots level."

Chisholm's award is indicative of his hard work, dedication and genuine interest in environmental studies. Isham observed that he represents the kind of environmental studies student Middlebury College is looking for.

Housing Crunch Eased, Lounges Saved

By Dan Polifka
Staff Writer

Just two weeks ago it appeared as though Middlebury College would have to convert a number of lounges into dorm rooms in order to accommodate over enrollment. The situation has improved markedly, however, as fewer lounges are now slated for conversion.

Prior to February break, administrators were discussing the possibility of converting as many as 14 lounges into rooms for members of the incoming class of 2006.5. Areas of low student-to-lounge ratios, such as Hepburn and Gifford halls, have most benefited from the reversal.

Michael Stahler '03, a Residential Assistant in Hepburn, fielded numerous complaints from his residents and decided to take action — just as he did two years ago when a similar crisis arose. "We invited Dean [of Enrollment Planning] Mike Schoenfeld to come over to Hepburn. We gave him the tour and showed him to students," said Stahler, who also wrote an op-ed for *The Middlebury Campus*. "The end result is that we are going to be getting back both of our lounges."

Lounges will also be preserved in Gifford, which like Hepburn, is high on the priority list for the return of common space. Residential Systems Coordinator Mariah McKechnie was able to move members of the class of 2006.5 into rooms without jeopardizing a

(see Despite, page 4)

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Despite Difficulties, Residential Life Finds Housing for All Students

(continued from page 3)
lot of free space because some upperclassmen returning from abroad or a semester off moved into unconventional spaces, such as social houses and other special interest houses.

A potential source of discord, the placement of non-members into social houses, has not yet posed any problems.

"This spring is an unusual one for ADP, because we do not have sophomore members to take the spots in the house left by juniors who have gone abroad," commented Bob Wainwright '03, president of ADP. "It's something we knew would happen as a consequence of the house's probation, so it didn't take anyone by surprise. And it looks like it will work out really well."

Although Febs are spread among a high number of residence halls this year, 14, McKechnie is not concerned. "It's a common misperception that Febs fill great beds. That's just not the case. I wouldn't worry about the Febs, though. They'll find each other."

> A potential source of discord, the placement of non-members into social houses has run smoothly.

The mood of most students who have been displaced — those who have had to move or have had their lounge taken away, —seems to be positive, not negative. This is a testament, many feel, to the cohesiveness of the student body and the willingness of administrators to work with students.

"The college is extremely responsive about students' issues [such as this one]," commented Stahler. "A lot of the time people are thoroughly dissatisfied with how they are being treated, but if they just went to the College, a lot of things could be worked out. That's what we were trying to do: work within the community to better everyone's life."

Future of Smoking Policy Uncertain Unclear

(continued from page 1)
Director of Career Services Jaye Roseborough, a longtime member of the Council. She called for a"tighter survey" to be followed by a student-wide referendum on the issue.

Yet Roseborough grappled with the conflict between valuing student self-governance and "recognizing a massively huge public health issue that we're not in the dark about anymore."

The Taskforce, for example, found that only 30 percent of students think second-hand smoke is a major problem in residence halls, and therefore concluded that second-hand smoke is "not considered a major problem." They also found "limited evidence of cigarette smoke as having led to fire in residential halls."

The documented risks of second-hand smoke and open flames still prompted calls for administrative action, even if that overrides the Taskforce's premium on student opinion.

Dean of the Language Schools and Schools Abroad Michael Katz said the dilemma calls for "leadership and not democracy." Katz said he would announce a full-scale ban on residential smoking effective from June of this year, but only if Middlebury College embraces the policy during the academic year.

"We need a carefully engineered consensus," he said. "It's time for the College to recognize that the preponderance of evidence against tobacco use is such that we should take a stance." That evidence ranges from health concerns to fire hazards — Katz said the Language Schools dealt with "a number of fires last year, many of which were butts burning in garbage cans."

Residential Systems Coordinator Mariah McKechnie '01 seconded the need for an administrative solution. She told *The Middlebury Campus*, "As much as it's been wonderful to hear what students have to say, it's become clear that there are some issues where we must make an administrative decision." She pledged to continue to push for a smoking ban during the spring semester.

She is backed by over 800 students who signed a petition that suggested banning smoking in residence halls and within a 25-foot perimeter around buildings. Those signatures, gathered by Students for a Smoke Free Middlebury in the fall semester, were "brushed off and ignored by the SGA," she said.

The Community Council will continue discussion of smoking policy at its meeting next Monday.

Grades, Abroad Options on the Table

(continued from page 1)
studying on non-Middlebury programs was comparable to that of students studying under the auspices of C.V. Starr or partner schools, there were still "more students getting lower grades in Australia and New Zealand."

The debate concerning study abroad grades at the Dec. 9, 2002, faculty meeting centered around the logic of counting grades at Middlebury Schools Abroad and not at other institutions. "If we don't count grades [from non-Middlebury programs], these institutions are perceived as not being on the same level as Middlebury College," said Associate Dean of the Faculty and Professor of German Michael Geisler.

The EAC's initial proposal called for all study abroad grades to be displayed on students' transcripts. However, an amendment brought to the floor and accepted during the December meeting took the language one step further to require these grades to be factored into students' GPAs. This decision is even more significant given plans to begin printing students' GPAs on official Middlebury College transcripts, a practice that up until now has been impeded by the College's current AS/400 computer system. According to Secretary of the College Eric Davis, transcripts reflecting overall and semester GPAs will appear in January 2004 after Banner, the new student information computer system, has been fully implemented.

Student Co-chair of Community Council Ben LaBolt '03 said that he and Student Government Association (SGA) President Ginny Hunt '03 supported the EAC's original proposal to display all study abroad grades on official transcripts. This measure, he maintained, would be enough to "hold students accountable" for their academic performance overseas. Factoring these marks into GPAs, he continued, does not make sense given that students engage in different types of learning while abroad. "Someone studying on a program in Africa is going to be graded differently from someone studying at the London School of Economics," he said.

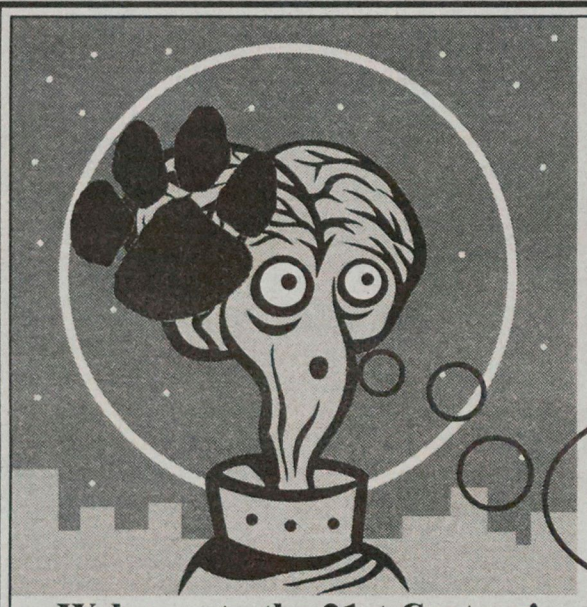
Macey explained that all grades earned from non-Middlebury programs and institutions would be converted to reflect the College's educational standards.

Department chairs were commissioned with the task of preparing a list of suitable study abroad institutions for majors or minors intending to study overseas. This move concerns LaBolt and Hunt, who are convinced it will limit the number of study abroad options currently available to rising Juniors. "We need to maintain choice in programs," said LaBolt.

As the Faculty prepares to tackle other initiatives outlined in the EAC's report, Hunt is prepared to fully involve herself in upcoming discussions on the topic. She and LaBolt will suggest a two-year review of the new GPA policy at Monday's faculty meeting. More importantly, they will present a proposal for universal portable financial aid to the Board of Trustees on Friday. Currently, only students studying at C.V. Starr Schools are eligible for financial aid. Passage of the SGA's proposal would extend this benefit to all financial aid recipients, regardless of where they are studying. If other institutions are treated equally when it comes to grading, said Hunt, they should be treated equally in the eyes of the Financial Aid Office.

PUBLIC SAFETY LOG

Date	Time	Incident	Category	Location	Disposition
1/14/03	9:00 p.m.	Theft	Cell Phone	McCullough Center Student	Referred to MPD
2/3/03	12:22 a.m.	Vandalism	Door	Warner Science	Open
2/5/03	10:51 a.m.	Vandalism	Card Reader	Painter	Referred to Commons Dean
2/9/03	3:10 a.m.	Vandalism	Gator	FIC	Open



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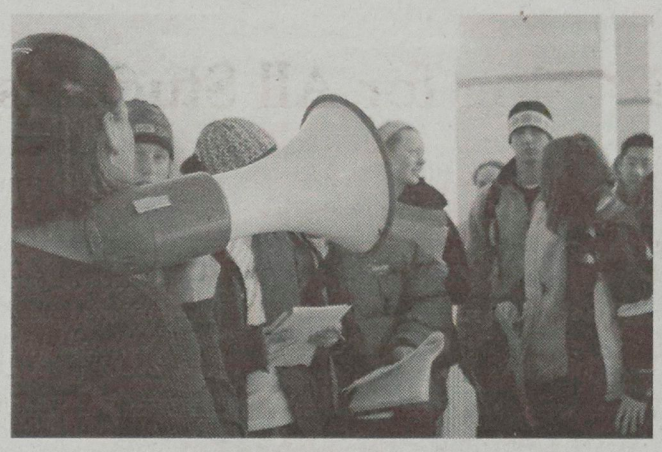
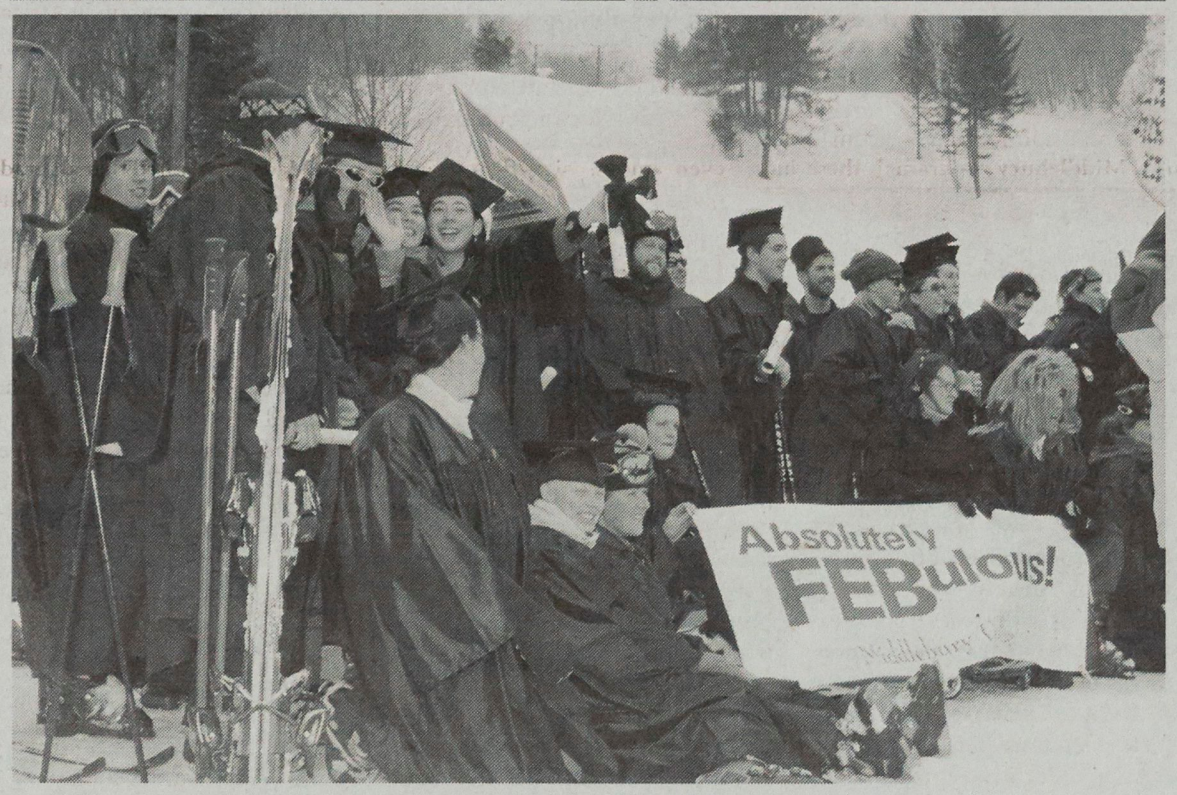
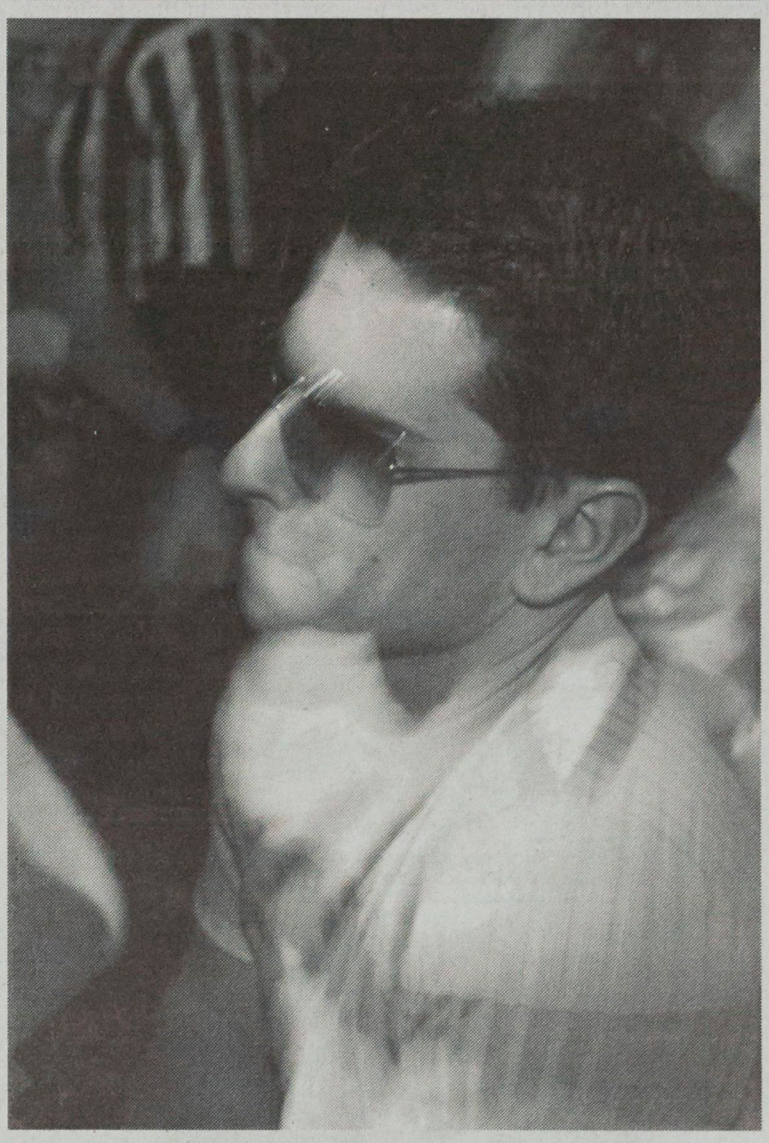


Sending Off Old Friends, Welcoming New Faces

Celebration and Orientation Events Fill February Break Calendar





All photographs by Vlad Lodoaba, Photo Editor

NOLS

Thursday, February 13, 2003
Middlebury College
Information table at Ross Dining
Hall-Visit us during dinner.

The National Outdoor Leadership School, a non-profit organization, is the leader in outdoor education. From one week to three months, NOLS offers over sixty-five different course types in the world's most spectacular classrooms. College credit and scholarships are available. Come learn about NOLS... we'll be there to answer your questions and introduce you to the exciting adventure NOLS offers around the world.

NOLS Presentation, MCH room 216-Begins at 7 p.m.

NOLS will be represented by Ernest Peterson, director of admissions.

Douglas Budget Aims to Give Vermont Economic Boost

By Megan O'Keefe
Assistant Local News Editor

In a speech delivered before Vermont's General Assembly on Jan. 20, Governor James Douglas '72 presented the state budget plan that he hopes will save Vermont from what he calls "the worst budget crisis since World War II."

Douglas began with a thorough look at Vermont's current financial situation, listing the numerous challenges Vermonters will face in the coming year. "A prolonged economic slowdown caused by global recession and Vermont's own competitive disadvantages has resulted in hundreds of businesses laying off workers or going bankrupt, closing their doors and casting thousands onto the unemployment rolls. As a result, the state has lost millions in tax revenue for funding important programs," he said.

Despite these early strains of pessimism, Douglas' speech laid the groundwork for an aggressive set of economic initiatives designed to return Vermont to prosperity. Douglas warned, however, that the budget would call for sacrifice. He explained, "At a time when our economy is fragile and Vermonters are having to make do with less, state government must, as well. Given the difficult choices this budget presents, some may be inclined to take the easy road of a tax increase in order to avoid addressing the difficult structural issues affecting state government." Douglas' budget calls not for higher taxes, "which is something Vermonters could not afford," but for reduced and reformed government spending. "We should not," he affirmed, "dig deeper into the pockets of struggling taxpayers."

Douglas proposed a $2.3 billion state spending plan for the 2004 fiscal year, representing a 1.7 percent increase over the current year. "This is a balanced budget – balanced on the bottom line and balanced in its call for sacrifice," Douglas said.

Economic Initiatives

Initiatives designed to provide economic assistance to entrepreneurs, to encourage companies to do business in Vermont and to create jobs for hundreds of Vermonters were chief among Douglas' plans for reviving the state's economy. "Today, I am announcing a $106.8 million job creation and economic security package," Douglas said. The program, the most significant investment in entrepreneurial business and employment in recent state history, is intended to create thousands of new jobs and save thousands more. Douglas said he intends to provide additional funding of $1.2 million to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development "to recruit new business to Vermont, market Vermont's tourism industry and train our workers for 21st century job opportunities." The jobs program will also provide over $85 million dollars in low interest loans to entrepreneurs and small businesses struggling to expand.

> At times when our economy is fragile, and Vermonters are having to make do with less, state government must as well.
>
> –Governor Jim Douglas '72

Farm Assistance

Douglas also announced a financial commitment to Vermont's farmers with a $15 million financing project orchestrated by the Vermont Agricultural Credit Association. A move to eliminate statewide property tax on all farm and forest land and agricultural buildings, as proposed by Douglas, would provide further aid to farmers. Douglas affirmed, "Too often when we speak of expanding opportunity, we forget about a group of people who represent the best of Vermont in every way. Vermont's farmers are facing especially troubled times. Many do not have the resources they need to upgrade technology, learn new management skills and improve their operations to make their farms profitable."

The $15 million provided by the Vermont Economic Development Authority would come from a restructuring of the association's debt, thereby requiring no further appropriation of funds. Douglas drew great praise from a number of key politicians for his emphasis on assisting farmers. Steve Kerr, Vermont's Agriculture Commissioner, lauded Douglas, saying, "Jim Douglas just put his money where his mouth is. I don't think any governor could have, in fewer words or more words, done for Vermont agriculture as Jim Douglas just did."

Property Taxes and Educational Funding

Much controversy has arisen over Douglas' plan to decrease property taxes statewide from $1.10 per acre to $1.07. This property tax cut, along with the elimination of farm and forest property taxes, would be financed by surplus money in the education fund. Democrats voiced concern that the statewide tax break would primarily benefit residents of property-wealthy towns, at the expense of the many property-poor towns of Addison County. Opponents of the plan urge Douglas to instead increase per-pupil spending on education provided to school districts as a block grant under Act 60. Senator Gerry Gossens, D-Salisbury, responded, "If any school funding program is going to work, the state will have to pay its fair share in good times and bad times, and these are bad times." Douglas said he would listen to alternative ideas including using the surplus to increase per-pupil block grants.

Powerball Lottery

Douglas' plan to bring the Powerball lottery to Vermont was met with skepticism. While Douglas believes the lottery will generate revenue for education spending, opponents say that Powerball will encourage gambling amongst the Vermonters who can least afford it. The governor contends, "It's clear to me that we're losing money by not participating in a multi-state lottery game. Vermonters are buying these tickets, and they're going out of state to do it." Opponents such as Rep. Steve Maier, D-Middlebury, responded negatively to the proposal. "I'm not in favor of Powerball," he said. "I'm quite convinced it's not the type of thing we should be doing."

Infrastructure Improvements

Douglas also promoted funding to upgrade water and pollution control facilities, parks and dam maintenance. He endorsed spending on construction of a new Rutland Court House, new state police barracks in Middlebury and Pittsford and $600,000 in new funds for police and fire services. A half a million dollars would also be spent on upgrading antiquated health and public safety laboratory services. Finally, $3 million would be allocated for transportation projects, including road and bridge construction.

Absolutely Feb-ulous!

Vlad Lodoaba

The Snowbowl becomes a major local attraction as Febs hold their traditional graduation on skis ceremony.

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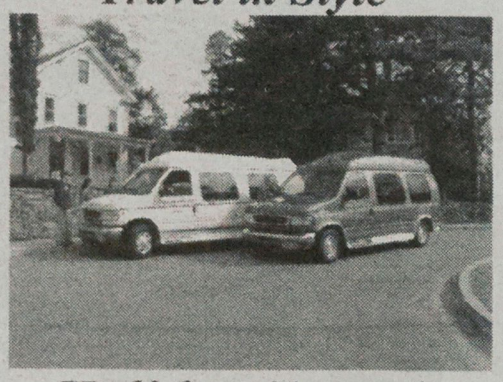

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The Douglas Budget Proposal
... At a Glance

- A $105 million economic development package providing loans to entrepreneurs and small businesses
- A $15 million low-interest financing program to support Vermont's farmers
- The elimination of statewide property tax on all farm and forest land and agricultural buildings
- A reduction of statewide property tax from the current $1.10 to $1.07. The cut would be financed by a surplus in the education fund
- The hiring of 10 additional state troopers
- The establishment of DETER, a $3.08 million Drug Education, Treatment, Enforcement and Rehabilitation Program
- $1.25 million for improvements on state police barracks in Middlebury and Pittsford

House Ways and Means Committee OKs Powerball for Vermont, Sends Bill to the Floor

Lottery Expansion Bill Would Allow Vermonters to Rake in the Big Bucks

By Pete Faroni
Staff Writer

Recent stirrings in the Vermont Statehouse have addressed the implementation of a multistate lottery game such as Powerball or Megamillions. On Tuesday, Jan. 3 the House Ways and Means Committee approved the bill 6-3, and will now send it to the House to be voted on. The bill would direct Vermont's Lottery Commission to bring in the multistate game, which could take five months of preparation, by July 1. Governor James Douglas '72 has dedicated the expected $3.2 million yield that the Powerball will bring to the state education fund.

The Committee has spent the last few months pouring over testimony from both supporters and opponents of the lottery expansion, which would be included in the mid-year budget adjustment bill, which redirects state spending half-way through the year.

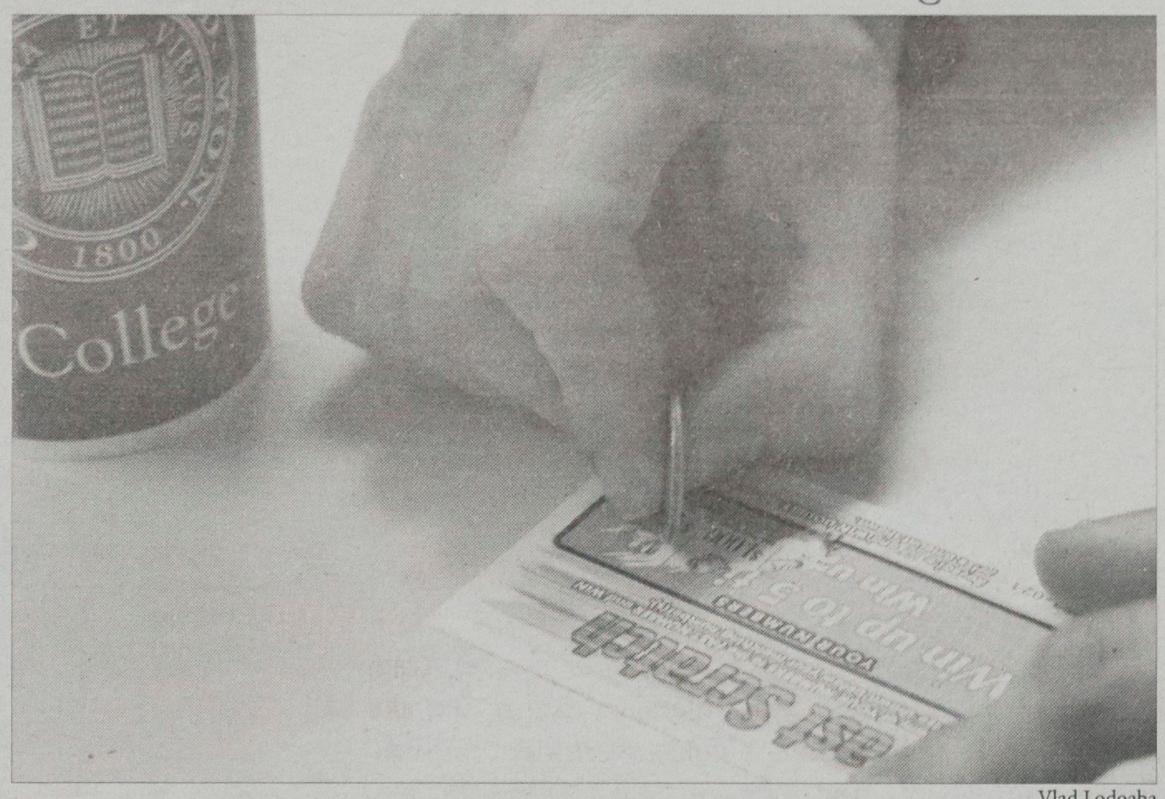
Vermont is one of only five states not included in a Powerball or Megamillions game, despite offering games such as the Tri-State Megabucks (with Maine and New Hampshire), smaller jackpot games and instant tickets.

Current lottery revenues are about $16 million a year, though sales have been declining steadily for a number of years. The decline could continue if the state refuses to include games with multimillion-dollar jackpots.

Richard Marron, R-Stowe, a major proponent of the lottery expansion, stated, "Historically, when states tried to put lotteries in place there was a moral, Protestant ethic that this was not good. I don't think that's an issue anymore. The fact is we are gambling." To further prove his point, he wrote in an e-mail statement to *The Middlebury Campus*, "As far as the moral dilemna, the state is already engaged in the lottery business. A referendum was held on the issue in 1976 and more than two-thirds of Vermonters supported the lottery."

On the other hand, Rep. Steve Hingtgen, D-Burlington, suggests that the new lottery will have a greater, possibly negative, effect on people of lower incomes. He cited statistics that show that those of lower incomes were more likely to gamble and that less affluent communities spent more per capita on lotteries. Hingtgen, who believes that the new bill will drain money from poorer communities, questioned, "Is it the appropriate role of the government to promote gambling rather than regulate it? Is government trying to get people to participate more?" He also mused, "Whatever happened to the government promoting hard work, education and perseverance?"

Sen. Susan Bartlett, D-Lamoille, also disagreed with the premise of the bill, but said that it brought minor changes, not major shifts in policy. She believes that changes to education funding should not have been made through this particular bill.



Vlad Lodoaba

While Vermonters can play the Tri-State Megabucks and small jackpot games and buy intstant tickets in their own state, those hoping to hit it big by winning the multimillion-dollar Powerball jackpot must cross into New Hampshire to purchase tickets. That may soon change, thanks to Governor Jim Douglas '72, who is leading the campaign to bring high jackpot lottos to Vermont.

Many opponents of the bill criticize the increase in the number of gambling addictions that Powerball could bring. There are, however, organizations dedicated to helping problem gamblers. Executive Director of the Vermont Council on Problem Gambling Inc. Joy Mitchell said that her organization needs monetary aid—around $200,000—to help her operate the 24-hour gambling addiction help hot line. Mitchell currently answers all calls herself. The organization receives financial assistance from the Lottery Commission and the Health Department. Mitchell said she would stay out of the political entanglement over Powerball, but would like to see additional financial aid, particularly if Powerball is implemented in Vermont.

> Is it the appropriate role of the government to promote gambling rather than regulate it? Is government trying to get people to participate more? Whatever happened to the government promoting hard work, education, and perseverance?
>
> –Representative Steve Hingten

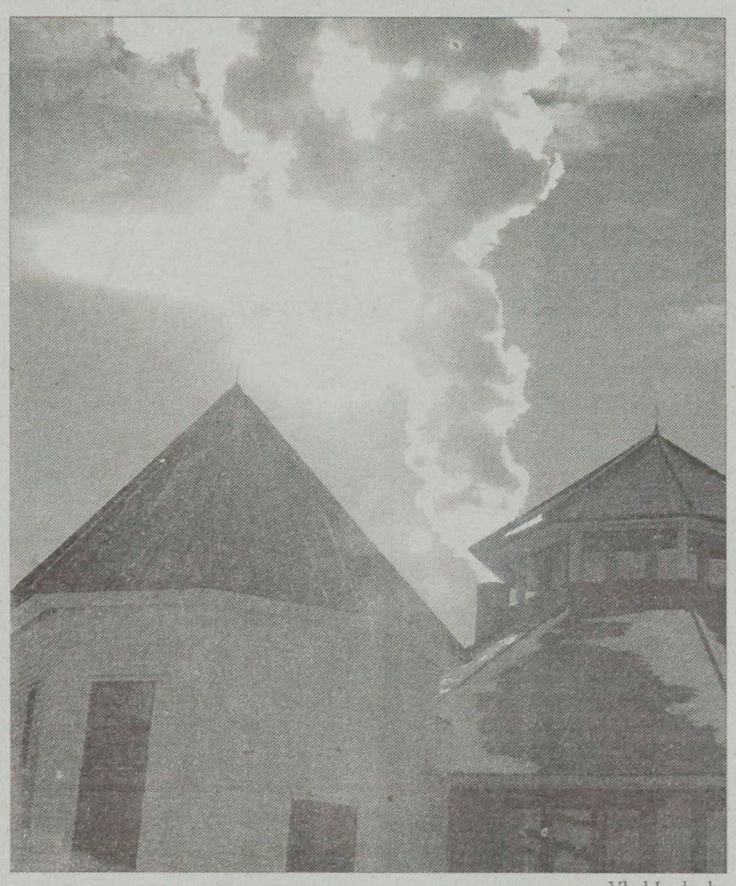
While the bill faces much opposition, this opposition is met with equally ardent support in the public, from Vermont residents such as storeowner Bill McDonald. The owner of the Waits River General Store, located 13 miles from the New Hampshire border, McDonald noted, "People who want to play Powerball will go to great lengths, whether they're a mile or 50 miles from New Hampshire." Several lawmakers agree with McDonald. Marron asked, "What's wrong with doing it here...and having that money stay here and benefit our schools instead of whatever it goes to in New Hampshire?" He noted, "It is difficult to quanitfy the exact amount of revenue lost as a result of these out-of-state parchases." Rep. Joyce Errecart, R-Shelburne, also supports the Powerball bill. She does not want to see customers of Waits River General Store pass by McDonald to buy their sandwiches at a New Hampshire shop, where they can buy a Powerball ticket. She said, "People are really hurting. We have had such an erosion of business to New Hampshire."

House Appropriations Chairman Richard Westman, R-Cambridge, gave his approval of the bill, which he sees as a promising method of helping schools pass their budgets this year. Marron noted, "Vermont has one of, if not the most progressive tax system in the United States. The lottery represents a small part of the more than $1 billion that Vermonters tax themselves and their visitors to pay for their schools. My committee is continuing to look for a better way to fund education in Vermont. There is no easy answer."

Westman hopes to have the budget adjustment bill completed early in the week.

Executive Director of the Vermont Lottery Alan Yandow, also the star of the lottery advertisements, said the theme of lottery games has always been "good, clean fun," but urges people to "play responsibly." Lottery, he added, "is an entertainment choice." What becomes of the expansion of the state lottery in the coming months remains to be seen. With groups firmly seated on both sides of the argument, however, the debate over the Powerball bill is really anyone's game.

Smoke on the Water...



Vlad Lodoaba

Backlit by the late afternoon sun, *a column of smoke billows from the Service Building heating plant.*

The History of the Vermont State Lottery

By Kelsey Rinehart
Local News Editor

Since 1778, when Vermont's first legislature convened, lawmakers have been inundated with requests to have lotteries, since unauthorized gambling games were against the law. Legal games were initially viewed as charitable endeavors, opportunities for citizens to assist their communities. Early lotteries often benefited road-building and other public works projects. They also helped unfortunate souls such as Stephen Conant, who, in 1800 after losing his house and business in a fire, begged the legislature for permission to run a lottery to raise money for himself.

Conant, however, did not receive much help from the legislature. After changing his estimated loss from $4,000 to $5,000, lawmakers became suspicious, and granted him $4,000. After three years, Conant's sweepstake only raised $600.

Compared to fellow New England states, who started their lotteries in the early 1770s, Vermont got a late start. The state's first lottery was approved by the 1779 legislature, and raised a hefty sum of $30,000 to assist Vermont and neighboring states in building a militia to defend them from British antagonists. Though the first lottery was not viewed as a major success, the legislature was not deterred. In the five years following the initial lottery, the legislature approved 42 lotteries, out-gaming all but four states.

In the 1820s it became evident that lotteries were no longer solely charitable endeavors. As religious revivalism flourished, many began to cite the immorality of lotteries. Governor Ezra Butler said in an 1826 speech that lotteries could only harm "the principles of morality in Vermont."

In 1894, the legislature voted to ban lotteries, and did not restore them until 1978, when lawmakers, noting strong public support, reintroduced state lottery to aid public schools.

Middlebury Family Takes Addison County Humane Society to Vermont Supreme Court After Organization Seizes Horse

By Kelsey Rinehart
Local News Editor

In September 2001, the Hegarty family of Middlebury filed a lawsuit against the Addison County Humane Society (ACHS) when Paka, Suzanne Hegarty's daughter's older horse, was seized by the organization due to the animal's extremely low weight. The horse was taken without prior notice from the family's East Middlebury home that August. When the Addison County Superior Court ruled that the ACHS's actions were appropriate, the Hegartys appealed to the Vermont Supreme Court, claiming that Paka's confiscation violated their property rights as guaranteed by the Fourth Amendment. The Hegarty case challenges the Vermont statute that permits direct seizure, without a warrant, of an animal from its owner by a humane society if the animal is suffering and in danger of dying.

As in most seizure cases, the ACHS did not inform the family of the seizure until after it had taken place. After a veterinarian noted Paka's protruding ribs and deemed that it was not being fed enough and might need medical treatment, the ACHS took the animal. Later, after verifying its health, the ACHS returned the horse to the Hegartys, but the family persisted with the lawsuit. Peter Langrock, the Hegartys' lawyer, initially sought monetary recompense for damages to the family. He stated, "My clients come first. But in order to protect them, I have to challenge the whole system." Langrock now questions the constitutionality of the animal cruelty statute in the Supreme Court.

On April 17, 2002, the State Senate Judiciary Committee passed two House bills to remedy animal cruelty laws. The first law banned the sale of animals on the side of Vermont highways and the second made torturing an animal a felony. This legislation came in response to many instances of animal cruelty, and, in particular, to the case of Peggy Stevens,who was previously convicted on animal cruelty charges and from whom dozens of animals were seized last summer.

The second law was enacted in an attempt to punish animal hoarders–those who collect many animals and then fail to provide them with proper food and care. Director of Vermont Volunteer Services for Animals in Bridgewater Susan Skaskiw has seen many cases of "animal hoarding" over the years. Last summer, Skaskiw worked to rehabilitate two dogs taken from Stevens that had lived in cages their entire lives and did not know how to walk. On one occasion, 90 cats, dogs and rabbits were seized from Stevens.

Animal advocates and state government officials now face the task of defining "proper" treatment, which is often hard to determine in court. The lack of a clear description of "adequate" often results in the acquittal of those charged with animal cruelty. The new laws seek to clarify "adequate" shelter and define how much space and daily exercise animals should get. Skaskiw said, "This law will make it easier for people to understand what's expected of them, as well as for law enforcement ... and prosecutors to bring a case to court."

> You're dealing with animals. People are very passionate about their animals. Your dog isn't like a desk. [The Laws] are not very progressive. They're not very responsive to today's problems.
> – Jeff Lively, lawyer for the Addison County Humane Society

The ACHS's lawyer, Jeff Lively, argues that since animals are not inanimate objects like cars or houses, they can and should be taken by Humane Societies without prior notice if their lives are in danger. "First of all, we believe that animals aren't pure private property, and because of that, they are entitled to much less protection than if you were to take someone's home," Lively commented. He said that the ACHS had tried several times to contact the Hegartys but received no response.

Langrock and Lively expect the verdict in the Hegarty case sometime during the summer or fall of 2003. Langrock and the Hegartys have confronted the present statute because they believe it permits groups to seize animals without a significant reason, and that a single person's assessment of an animal's situation should not determine whether an owner must give up the animal. Langrock said, "Basically, one person's perception of a situation is not necessarily the correct one." He also noted that the Humane Society should not be allowed to seize property without a warrant and should follow rules that police officers must obey.

Langrock also criticized the ACHS for taking Paka while a television crew taped the scene. He claims that the ACHS was seeking publicity. Humane Society Director Ric Kasini Kadour did not deny this charge, but countered that the crew was taping a program on the ACHS in general that was intended to inform the public of the issue of animal cruelty.

While the ACHS and other Humane Societies believe that it is important to draw people's attention to animal cruelty, Lively has urged his Humane Society clients to exercise caution when deciding to seize an animal. "Unless you see the most egregious act of animal cruelty in front of you, don't do it without a warrant," he advises them. Lively and others complain that the laws inadequately address the gray area between private property and animal rights. "You're dealing with animals. People are very passionate about their animals. Your dog isn't like a desk. [The laws] are not very progressive. They're not very responsive to today's problems," he said.

The ACHS is keenly aware of the problems facing animals and their owners today. A 25 year-old organization, the ACHS says they are "dedicated to fostering the humane treatment of animals in Addison County. This includes operating a shelter, promoting animal welfare, providing community resources and enhancing the connection between people an animals." Many Humane Societies, such as the Humane Society of Chittenden County (HSCC), take "cruelty reports" and employ a Cruelty Investigator who reviews cases and inspects animals. In 1999, the HSCC staff investigated 70 cases regarding the care of dogs, cats, farm animals, birds and other creatures. Humane Societies say that there is much information gathered, many warnings issued and several last-chance measures taken before an animal seizure.

The ACHS and many other Humane Societies believe it would be disastrous if they were forbidden to rescue suffering animals. Though he joined the ACHS six months after the horse seizure, Kadour was glad that the Addison County Superior Court decided in favor of the Humane Society. Still, Kadour worries that stakes are higher now that the case has moved to the state Supreme Court. If laws are changed, animals could be relegated to the position of "private property," and would be subject to the Fourth Amendment, thus discontinuing animal seizure. The ACHS recently took 15 horses, 16 dogs and two birds from the Panton Road home of Laura Lee Bushey, claiming that the animals were being neglected. The ACHS worked in collaboration with the Middlebury Police Department and on Jan. 23, after obtaining a warrant, took the animals to the ACHS and the Spring Hill Animal Rescue of Brandon to be cared for. The ACHS cited a variety of issues, such as improper shelter, medical concerns, lack of food and water and unsanitary living conditions as reasons for taking the animals. The Humane Society believes that it would have been very unfortunate if they were not able to rescue these animals.

Unfortunately for Kadour and others, animal protection comes at a price. "The [Bushey] case will put a squeeze on ACHS finances and facilities. We don't have emergency funds for a case like this," he said. "This has cost us a quarter of our animal cruelty [investigation] budget, and will probably be another $2,000 to $3,000 before the case is resolved."

Still, Kadour and others go on rescuing hundreds of animals because they believe that animal cruelty is an issue of the utmost importance. Many have noted the connection between animal cruelty and violent tendencies towards people. Burlington Animal Control Officer Jodi Harvey said, "The human relationship to animal cruelty and human violence whether that be child abuse, child neglect or spousal abuse, there has been a direct link to it ... Your noted serial killers have actually had links to severe animal abuse."

In response to this link, the United States Humane Society began the First Strike Program, which educates the public about the association between violence towards animals and towards other people.

File Photo

The Humane Society of Addison County provides shelter and care for neglected and mistreated animals.

Write Right Now...

The Middlebury Campus announces an informational meeting for prospective staff writers.

Where: Munroe Lecture Hall

When: Monday, Feb. 17 at 7:30 p.m.

For more information contact Jonathan White (4606) or Devin Zatorski (4814)

The Middlebury Campus

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Editorial

The Case For a Review of Abroad Grades and Advising

In its Dec. 9 meeting, the College faculty voted to include grades from overseas institutions and programs in students' cumulative GPA.

The Student Government Association (SGA) has voiced concern that students were not present for this vote. This is lamentable, though it is the job of the SGA to see to it that students attend these meetings. The SGA should make good on its resolve to have a representative attend all faculty meetings in the future. The faculty, for its part, should actively consider student input on this important issue.

In some circles, the faculty vote may be seen as giving mettle to the academic side of study abroad. An article in *The Campus* on Jan. 29 identified faculty members as skeptical of student achievement overseas. Yet a survey conducted by the College administration in the spring of 2002 showed students obtained higher GPAs while abroad on Middlebury programs than they did on-campus.

Thus the case for the incorporation of study abroad grades is threefold and not limited to a matter of student underachievement. First, there is a need to recognize the achievements of students who push themselves while abroad. There is also a need to compel some students to take academics seriously in international programs. Finally, the College should create an even playing field. If Middlebury programs abroad translate grades, then fairness dictates that non-Middlebury programs should also translate, especially given the rise in popularity of these programs. The Educational Affairs Committee (EAC) should look closely at models from other schools. A clear example of the success of including grades would make the EAC's case persuasive and would address the SGA's legitimate concerns regarding this restructuring.

This moment of transition also provides an opportunity for academic departments and the Office of Off-Campus Study to re-evaluate their usefulness to students. Are students being properly advised when making study abroad choices? We sense a discouraging absence of strong advising that must be remedied. If the College is to add gravity to the study abroad program with this new proposal concerning grades, academic and Off-Campus Study advisors cannot afford to be nonchalant or, in some cases stand-offish, in guiding students. While the ultimate decision to study beyond Vermont rests with students, there is a clear need for stronger, more informed, more honest and more helpful advising. The restructuring of the study abroad grading policy should bring a concomitant look into the advising behind what is considered one of the College's "peaks of excellence," that is Middlebury's reputation as a leader in international study.

Economic Woes Bind the Endowment and Families

Today the Executive Council released its recommendations to address the gap between endowment revenues and expenditures. While Winter Term off-campus study opportunities will be missed, the council is to be commended that this is the only salient change in the lives of students. Elsewhere, the recommendations proceed from a genuine concern for maintaining the quality of the Middlebury experience, while keeping staff relations amicable by avoiding antagonistic layoffs.

We commend the fruits of the council's labors as a measured approach, though we recognize that future cuts as a result of further economic malaise and a war-troubled economy may necessitate more noticeable cutbacks. At the same time, we ask that the College recognize that as it must make cuts to handle a dwindling endowment, Middlebury families are also hampered by the nation's economic woes. As such, we hope that this weekend's presentation of the comprehensive fee for 2003-2004 will be balanced, not outrageous.

The Middlebury Campus

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The Middlebury Campus (USPS 556-060), the student newspaper of Middlebury College, is published in Middlebury, Vermont by the Student Government Association of Middlebury College. Publication is every Wednesday of the academic year, except during official college vacation periods and final examinations. Editorial and business offices are in Hepburn Hall Annex, Middlebury College. The Middlebury Campus is produced on an Apple Macintosh network running QuarkXPress 4.1, and is printed by BD Press in Burlington, VT. The advertising deadline for all display and classified advertising is Friday at 5 p.m. for the next week's issue. Mailing address: The Middlebury Campus, Drawer 30, Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT 05753. Office phone: (802) 443-5736. Please address distribution concerns to the Business Director. First class postage paid at Middlebury, VT 05753. Subscription rate: $50 per year or $30 per semester within the United States; $60 per year or $45 per semester overseas. Business phone: (802) 443-5737.

Goldberg Backs War with Iraq

-Bryan Goldberg '05-

Much of this last week's issue of *The Middlebury Campus* read like a pat-on-the-back for a couple dozen students protesting the war in Iraq. In the very same issue, the spokesman for this effort, Wellington Lyons '04, submitted a piece which outlined his dissent ("War Objector Implores Patience," *The Middlebury Campus*, Jan. 29, 2003). Unfortunately, it appears his views are a bit misguided. As one of the many Middlebury students who support the idea of a war with Iraq, I would like to discuss some of his key points.

Lyons' argument opens by comparing the Iraq situation with that of North Korea. Lyons is using the "double standard" argument that has become popular in light of the North Korean threat. What Lyons needs to understand is that we are going to strike Iraq so as to avoid a situation similar to that with North Korea. The frightening truth is that North Korea, unlike Iraq, has America, as well as the rest of the world, pinned against the wall. North Korea is capable of nuking several key cities from Seoul to Tokyo, and its all-powerful leader, a man who currently holds 200,000 of his own citizens in Nazi-style death camps, is crazy enough to push the button. Even if we wanted to perform a pre-emptive strike on North Korea, we could not, simply because they have our head in a vice.

So, rather than use North Korea as a model for why we should not attack Iraq, we should view it as an illustrative example of why we should attack Iraq. Furthermore, half of the North Korean population would have died last year from starvation if not for America's generosity in sending them millions of pounds of food.

Lyons admits that Iraq's quest to develop weapons of mass destruction is "a scary thought," but he rationalizes that Hussein would never use those weapons. His argument that Iraq would never attack America is unfounded. Hussein is the only voice of authority in Iraq, because whenever anyone tries to question his authority, that person is immediately killed. Hussein absolutely hates America. He despises our country. He would love to see our country blow up and every American die. And, yes, that is a scary thought.

Furthermore, the reason Hussein hates America is not because we have done anything wrong, as many anti-war advocates have suggested, but rather because he is a man of hate. There are many Muslims whom Hussein hates with equal passion, such as those in neighboring Iran, with whom he fought an eight-year war. Hussein also hates the Muslim Kurds who inhabit northern Iraq, as demonstrated by the genocide of March 1988. If, in several years, Hussein's tyrannical regime begins to lose power in Iraq, what is to stop him from going out with a bang? Should Iraq face economic collapse, what is to stop Saddam from selling nuclear weapons to Al-Qaeda? Are we to believe that if a genocidal maniac like Hussein were about to lose power and, presumably with it, his life, that his conscience would miraculously kick in? Unlikely. Lyons' belief that Hussein is either too smart or too ethical to use nuclear weapons is absolutely naïve, and I, for one, would rather not wager the lives of millions against the hope that Hussein will "think better" of nuking his way out of power.

Finally, Lyons suggests that this war is primarily about "protecting the safety of the American people." This war is about a lot more than just that. First and foremost, it is about removing one of the most murderous men from power in a nation where tens of millions of people are suffering daily abuse. Lyons claims that "a war with Iraq would be nothing short of a crime against the people of Iraq." Nothing could be further from the truth.

Each year, Hussein kills hundreds if not thousands of his own people. If we allow Hussein to maintain power for decades to come, and eventually transfer it to his equally insane sons, many more people will die. Furthermore, the merits of each course of action are not only measured by how many people will die, but also by the fate of those who live. Right now, virtually all Iraqis live in poverty due to horrific mismanagement on behalf of their dictator. Not only that, but they live in constant fear and are severely oppressed. No Iraqi can speak his or her mind without fear of death. Those Iraqis who exhibit traits such as courage and free-thought, the very traits that Lyons exhibited when he spoke his mind in Washington D.C., are subjected to torture by Hussein, and many of them must fear for not only their lives, but also the lives of their families. Perhaps those who protest against President George W. Bush should consider the fact that if they were living in Iraq, and protesting against Hussein, they would be tortured and executed.

Bryan Goldberg is a sophomore economics major from Los Altos, California.

Students Face Immigration Trials

-Namik Kirlic '05-

Many things changed for international students after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks in terms of our status and the process of obtaining valid documents to study in the United States. First, the U.S. Patriot Act, which was implemented as a response to the terrorist attacks in 2001, resulted in putting males over the age of 16 from predominantly Muslim countries in an extremely difficult position while they went through the process of obtaining their visas. Extensive background checks were done and these often took up to a month, which forced many to defer studying in the United States for a semester and sometimes even a full year.

Recently, Immigration and Naturalization Services (INS) has implemented two new systems aimed at gaining correct information on international students in a more thorough and accurate way. While one system seems to be actually helpful to the international students, the other has attracted many negative opinions and reviews. The mission of the National Security Entry-Exit Registration System (NSEERS), also known as Special Registration is "ensuring our nation's security by protecting the rights of individuals coming to this country as well as the safety of the American people." The system allows the government to track all non-immi-

(see International, page 11)

Opinions Submission Policy

The Opinions pages of *The Middlebury Campus* provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, The Campus reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for reasons including, but not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. *The Campus* will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributor and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper.

The Campus welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works to campus@middlebury.edu, Drawer 30 or directly to the Opinions Editor by 5 p.m. Tuesday. *The Campus* retains the right to edit all submissions.

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International Students Experience Special Registration

(continued from page 10)
grants upon their entry into the United States.

According to the INS, the registration requires them to be fingerprinted, photographed and subjected to an interview with an INS official.

They must supply personal information such as residential and business addresses and must notify INS within 10 days of any changes in employment, educational institution or residence.

Once registered, those wishing to leave the country must report to a specified port of disembarkation and be interviewed by an INS official.

They must leave the country through that port on the very same day.

Those who have registered are also required to report back to the INS office 10 days from the one-year anniversary of their initial registration date. Failure to comply with any of these registration procedures can result in arrest, detention, fines and even deportation.

The program is most probably going to become effective for all non-immigrants by January 2005, but for now the Special Registration applies to males over the age of 16 from the following countries: Bangladesh, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Eritrea, Lebanon, Morocco, North Korea, Oman, Qatar, Somalia, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen, Iran, Iraq, Libya, Sudan and Syria.

While every student coming to this country for education wishes to be safe and protected, many are arguing that the Special Registration is violating basic human and civil rights, as well as U.S. laws.

It is argued that the program is targeting people of specific race and religion.

One point of interest is that all the countries mentioned above, excluding North Korea and Eritrea, are predominantly Muslim.

Others argue that the program will not capture terrorists because "not a single terrorist will come and register."

If the program continues to target only non-immigrants it will be as equally ineffective as any other. Some of the Sept. 11 hijackers were permanent residents or citizens of the United States and only two were on student visas.

Furthermore, some feel that this only adds fuel to the fire as it is targeting males from specific countries by labeling them as suspicious and as possible terrorists, which may result in the creation of prejudices and assumptions towards these individuals.

Most of all, it is extremely ironic for so many of those international students coming to the United States seeking freedom and democracy to be exposed to such discrimination.

Some international educators argue that by implementing this system, the U.S. government is diminishing the importance of international education and is failing to give a fair chance to international students who are interested in learning about U.S. culture.

Lack of knowledge and understanding of other cultures may very well be what leads to terrorism and wars.

However, there is some hope within the second system for international students called Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS).

> While every student coming to this country wishes to be safe and protected, many are arguing that the Special Registration is violating basic human and civil rights, as well as U.S. laws.

This system is Internet based and will provide the government with correct and up-to-date information on international students' whereabouts and other background information.

Each school has to put the information about their international students in the system by Aug. 1 and then they will be issued new I-20 forms and other necessary documents.

One of the major benefits of the program is that those applying for visas will wait a shorter time because they will already be in the system as possible applicants upon their acceptance in a US educational institution.

Also, entered information will be consistent, up-to-date and accurate. The majority of those who have all their documents in order will thus not suffer because of those who do not.

International students at Middlebury College need not panic about the new regulations. Kathy Foley-Giorgio, the associate dean of student affairs and the international adviser, has been working with students for whom the Special Registration was required and is making sure that they go through the process as smoothly as possible.

Throughout the spring semester, Foley-Giorgio will be holding information sessions by class year for international students so their transition to the new SEVIS program and the re-issuing of their documents is completed correctly and problems are avoided.

As international students, if we wish to stay in the United States and study we must comply with the rules and regulations in order to preserve our status. However, I hope that the INS, with its mission, can balance ensuring security and protecting international students while also avoiding the possible violations of human and civil rights, as well as discrimination. We appreciate that our security is of importance as well, but it could be done so perhaps in a more considerate way.

Namik Kirlic is President of the International Students Organization.

Hunt Responds to Study Abroad Decision

-Ginny Hunt '03-

The foundation of our community stands equally on respect, trust and communication. At the December faculty meeting, the faculty Educational Affairs Committee (EAC) and the faculty body as a whole abandoned each of these principles during the discussion of study abroad grades.

Prior to the faculty meeting, the EAC met with student representatives to discuss the substance of the plan they were to endorse at the meeting. Based upon those discussions, the Student Government Association endorsed the EAC proposal, trusting in the word of the EAC, confident in the strength of student-faculty bond. When the EAC learned in the hours before the meeting that their proposal was to be challenged, no effort was made to contact students or to solicit any student input whatsoever. The faculty made their decision in a vacuum.

The foundation of the student and faculty relationship was not cracked by student indifference or inaction as some have suggested, but rather by a blatant disregard for the mutual trust that has long bound our community together. Although the faculty is not formally bound and compelled to consult the student body, it seems that on a campus like ours, where we value the insights and opinions of all segments of the community, they clearly should. For this reason, a student committee meets and works in conjunction with a faculty committee to make curriculum recommendations.

Students realize the importance of the faculty/student relationship and are committed to its enduring place in our community. We must not be indignant or angry. Instead, we all must ask, "How do we fix that which is now broken?"

Study abroad has the potential to be transformed on a solid foundation, while continuing to maintain its place as one of Middlebury's peaks of excellence. The first step is to open the lines of communication once again. Second, as a gesture of good faith and an affirmation by the faculty of their belief in the student-faculty bond, the faculty should reconsider the inclusion of study abroad grades, working to ensure that the full force of the student voice is heard.

In the months to come, study abroad is an issue that will continue to be important and contentious. The student body is ready to move on a foundation of respect, cooperation, and progress. We hope the faculty chooses the same.

Ginny Hunt is president of the Student Government Association.

Town Resident Thankful for Help

-Alice Munson-

Last Saturday as I was leaving the Redemption Center one of your fine young students tapped on my window and said I had a flat tire. I got out and these two great guys said they would change it for me. Remember now it was very cold! After they easily changed it (or they made it seem easy) I got out and offered them some money for their time. They refused and said they were glad to help me. Wow!

I didn't even ask their names, but I am very proud of them — and at that moment thankful for them.

In the years I worked at Middlebury College I met many fine students. It was great to know you still have this fine quality in your young people. Thank you to my nameless heroes.

Alice Munson lives in Weybridge, Vt.

Middle Ground

-Fahim Ahmed '03-

Secretary of State Colin Powell's speech last week to the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) may have succeeded in convincing some domestic critics of the Bush administration's war against Iraq, but proved unsuccessful in winning over key allies across the globe.

Powell's case was flawed because he failed to recognize that the burden of proof to demonstrate that Iraq is harboring weapons of mass destruction is on the United States, rather than on Iraq to prove the contrary.

It is for this exact reason that key allies such as France, Germany and Russia have favored the completion of the weapons inspection process administered by the U.N. over a premature escalation of the conflict through U.S.-led military action.

Powell produced several pieces of audio-visual evidence to the UNSC in an effort to support the United States' claim that Saddam Hussein's regime has not been fully cooperative with the U.N. weapons inspection team.

However, Powell failed to address the fact that neither the inspectors nor the United States have yet been able to present any conclusive evidence on Iraq's alleged development of weapons of mass destruction.

The lack of a 'smoking gun' continues to weaken the case for war against Iraq, and until such key evidence emerges, global support for military action in Iraq may remain unachievable.

Evidently, the Bush administration has adopted an end-game strategy concerning the Iraq issue.

It has continued in its efforts to achieve a multilateral consensus as demonstrated in its recent presentation to the UNSC and in its openness to a second U.N. resolution on Iraq.

The United States has made it unmistakably clear that it will indeed go ahead with military action if convinced that Iraq has failed to disarm, even if the United States is unable to rally the support of the United Nations.

Therefore, even though the United States prefers multilateral support, it does not deem that a lack thereof would deter its ultimate course of action.

The U.S. stance on Iraq is perhaps best captured by Powell's recent speech in which he declared: 'Multilateralism is not an excuse for inaction' (CNN.com, Jan. 26, 2003).

The United States' position risks alienating its key allies, such as the UNSC and NATO, in the Western world as well as its remaining allies in the Arab and Muslim world where anti-U.S. sentiments have been on the rise given American war-rattling.

France, one of the most vocal critics of the United States' aggressive stance, is a permanent member of the UNSC and appears poised to exercise its veto power in the event of a U.N. resolution to authorize military action.

Russia, another permanent member, has joined France in a declaration for the continuation of the weapons inspection process.

Germany, currently the President of the UNSC, has vociferously opposed military action and holds that the conflict must be resolved through diplomatic efforts.

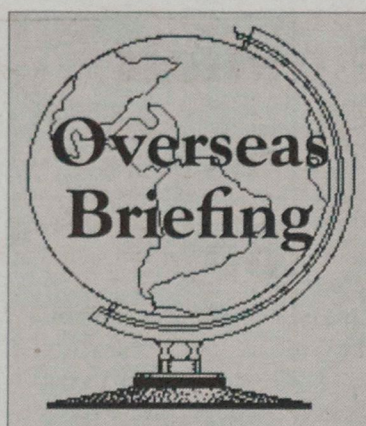
Belgium, a NATO ally, has joined France and Germany in a veto against sending defensive military equipment to Turkey due to fears that such action may undermine diplomatic efforts.

The United States has been largely dismissive of this opposition.

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld declared in a recent statement that France and Germany had been 'a problem' and that they represent 'Old Europe' (CNN.com, Jan. 22, 2003).

This arrogance in the U.S. attitude will inhibit the Bush administration's hopes to achieve multilateral support.

The Bush administration's posturing on Iraq risks losing key western allies, undermining the United Nations, and perpetuating anti-U.S. sentiments in the Muslim world, all at the pretext of an unsubstantiated and unverified threat to strategic interest.



By Carolyn Kormann
Staff Writer

After living and studying in Madrid for one month, I found myself experiencing the first so-called feelings of *rechazo*, Spanish refusal — a sentiment that the directors of our program had so delicately warned us we would feel toward our sudden immersion in a foreign culture, and for some, such as myself, our first time being away from everyone and everything that we know and love.

This feeling came to a head one afternoon as I was sitting in the living room of my señora's apartment. She was sitting across from me, smoking her cigarettes and drinking her whiskey, her frail 80 year-old body bundled up in front of the television.

I felt the sudden impulse to understand this aristocratic Spanish woman with whom I lived, and the first question that came to mind was, "What are your feelings on Spain's government?" I had chosen the right question. Carmen proceeded to indulge me for the next 30 minutes straight on the awful state of her country. Since the death of Franco, she said, all had gone straight to hell. She told me the story from her childhood of the rojos, Spanish for "reds," her term for everyone who opposed Franco during the civil war.

In the initial phases of the civil war, they had come to her house to kill her whole family, simply because they were wealthy and Catholic. Upon returning from a vacation in Franco-controlled territory, they learned from their doorman that the rojos were waiting there to murder them.

They consequentially returned to safety in Franco's territory. If she had not been in the safe-haven under Franco, she and her whole family would have been assassinated.

She tells me of the derelicts who now roam the streets. The police should be able to physically hit these criminals, as they did under Franco, in order to maintain a "safe" city, she maintains.

Clearly, I was shocked by Carmen's passionate words. It contradicted everything I had ever learned in the United States. Never had I heard such an old, seemingly sweet woman, express such strong and extreme convictions. She explained that she used to love history when she was my age, but that the records of the brutal murders and crimes, which Franco's opposition had committed, have been conveniently forgotten and erased. Her words transformed this shock into revelation and a storm of thoughts and questions and an eerie sense of comfort. My rechazo became

(see Living, page 14)

For Winter Term, Students Study in Sun

By Caroline Stauffer
Features Editor

While the majority of the Middlebury College student body spent Winter Term in the sub-zero Vermont temperatures, a group of students spent the month studying in a tropical paradise. These students had enrolled in a course entitled: "Geologic Evolution of the Hawaiian Islands."

"It was great to get out of the classroom for an entire month and really get a hands-on, first-hand experience with the regional geology of the area — geology that would be rather difficult to grasp without making the trip," Joel Cubley '05 said.

> Our professors Dave and Jeff were incredible, finding the perfect balance between academics, pleasure and pure sight-seeing.
> —Cory Lowe '04

Assistant Professor of Geology David West and Visiting Assistant Professor of Geology Jeff Munroe led the group in a 17-day exploration of the volcanic and geomorphic evolution of three Hawaiian Islands. The class targeted students who had taken two or more geology courses.

"Our professors Dave and Jeff were incredible, finding the perfect balance between academics, pleasure and pure sight-seeing," Cory Lowe '04 said.

The geology in Hawaii is much younger than the mainland United States, so the island provided students with the opportunity to observe the active process of geological evolution.

"The ecological changes were almost instantaneous when we crossed over the highest peaks on each of the islands," Emily Peterman '04 said.

The class began on campus with four days of background information and orientation. The students were also back at Middlebury for the final week of Winter Term in order to prepare written reports and give oral presentations on their findings.

During the trip, the group spent the greatest amount of time on the main Hawaiian island, the "Big Island." While there, the group climbed to the top of Mauna Kea, the tallest volcano on the island of Hawaii and perhaps the tallest mountain on earth. Some measurements peg its summit as more than 5.6 miles above the ocean floor. The class studied on the Big Island for more than a week and spent slightly less than a week on Maui.

In Maui, the group viewed the Hawaiian sunrise from the two-mile high summit of the Haleakala Volcano, which at 33 miles in diameter is the world's largest dormant volcano. After watching the sunrise, the group hiked 13 miles of the Volcano's expansive diameter.

The students also spent two days on Oahu investigating the volcanic origin of that island.

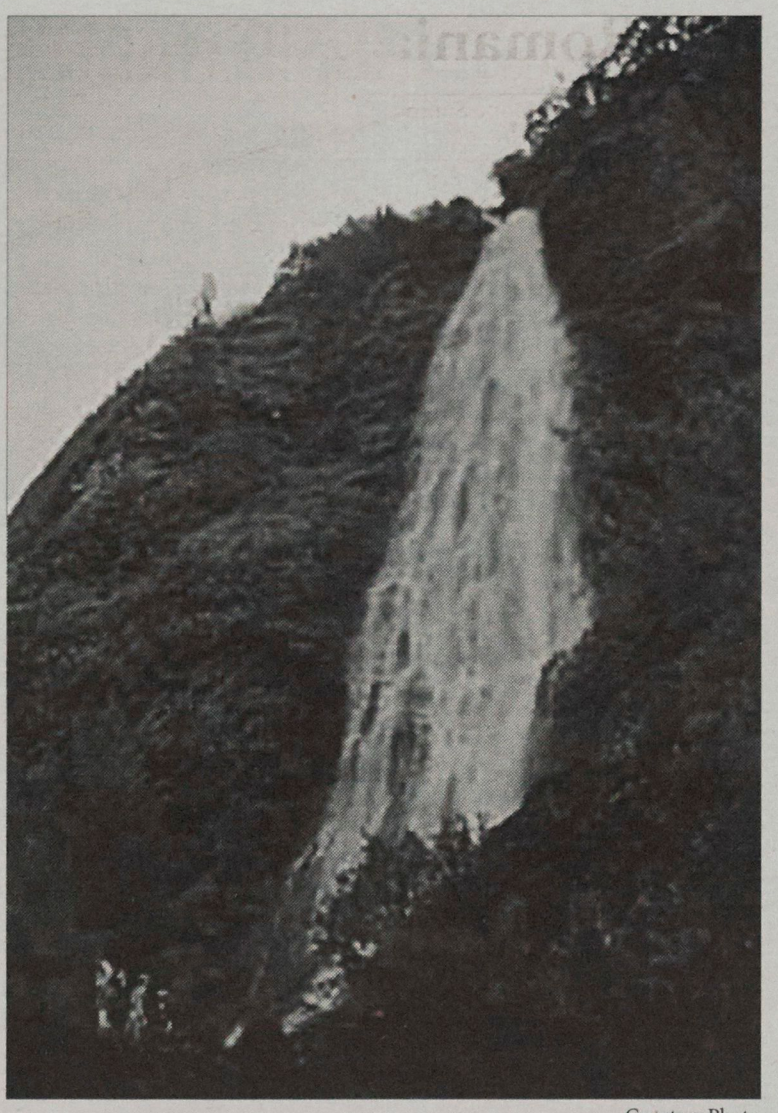
Because of the geological concentration of the trip, the students were able to see special places in Hawaii normal tourists never see.

Each student researched a specific topic of interest while in Hawaii and reported on his or her findings in an extensive presentation in the course's week-long conclusion back on campus. Lowe's area of concentration was the evolution of beaches. In Hawaii, the class could observe all the phases of beach evolution from hot lava to black sand to white sand.

"Learning about the formation of the islands in a classroom setting is one thing, but it has so much more meaning when you are actually there, looking at the rock layers, and coming up with possible explanations on your own," Sara Hayes '05 said.

Munroe cited highlights that ranged from watching lava form, climbing both volcanoes and vis-

(see Watching, page 14)



Courtesy Photo
In addition to studying geological evolution in the Hawaiian islands, geology students explored such sights as Kaluahine Falls.

Perry Selected to Serve on Film Jury

By Charlie Goulding
Staff Writer

Ted Perry, Fletcher Professor of the Arts at Middlebury College, served as one of 13 members of the motion pictures jury for the third annual American Film Institute (AFI) awards program. The AFI selects the year's most outstanding achievements in film and television, as well as significant moments in the world of moving image for recognition.

> According to Perry, one of the most enjoyable aspects of his stay on the jury was the exposure to films he otherwise would not have seen.

The jurors, whose names are kept confidential until they had cast their ballots, convened at the Park Hyatt Hotel in Los Angeles in December of 2002 for two days of deliberation. The winning films and television projects were honored at a luncheon at the Four Seasons Hotel in Los Angeles on Jan. 16.

Perry said the selection committee included people with a variety of film backgrounds.

"It was stimulating and exciting to sit in a room for a day with people — a *Newsweek* critic, producers, directors, writers, etc. — who are all passionate about movies, and arguing fervently among ourselves about the virtues and defects of various films," said Perry.

According to the AFI, its awards program is the only form of national recognition that honors the film and television creative ensemble as a whole, including those in front of and behind the camera. The 10 films selected for 2002 AFI honors are "About a Boy," "About Schmidt," "Adaptation," "Antwone Fisher," "Chicago," "Frida," "Gangs of New York," "The Hours," "The Lord of The Rings: The Two Towers" and "The Quiet American."

Despite his 10-year stay on the jury, Perry remarked, "It never got tiresome, I looked forward to seeing each and every [film] and talking about them afterwards." Throughout the year, each jury member screens between 50 and 70 films for consideration.

Perry notes that one of the perks of being an AFI juror is the exposure to films he otherwise would not have seen.

"I saw a lot of films I wouldn't have had the time see, or maybe wouldn't even have heard of," he added

Specifically, Perry was privy to a number of foreign and independent films which never attain mainstream recognition in America. Among those films was Roman Polanski's "The Pianist," a holocaust film set in Warsaw, Poland.

> It was stimulating and exciting to sit in a room with people who are all passionate about movies.
> —Ted Perry, Fletcher Professor of the Arts

In addition to ebating the merits of a film, the jurors discuss other film-related issues. For example, some debate arose over whether to classify "The Pianist" as a domestic or foreign film. From a domestic film perspective, Polanski is an American film icon, with "Tess," "Chinatown" and "Rosemary's Baby" all to his credit as either a director or screenwriter. On the other hand "The Pianist" was adapted by British playwright/screenwriter Ronald Harwood from the autobiography of Wladyslaw Szpilman, a Polish Jew who detailed his survival during World War II. Moreover, Polanski is a native of Poland and filmed the movie largely in Warsaw. The jury eventually decided to classify the film as foreign.

The only frustration Perry expressed was the difficulty in having an opinion different than the majority. "Of the 10 movies we choose to distinguish every year, I would say each jury member has voted for 6 of them," Perry speculated.

Perry teaches courses in film and video at Middlebury College. He is the former director of the Department of Film at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City and has taught film and video courses at the University of Iowa, State University of New York at Purchase and the American Film Institute's Center for Advanced Film and Television Study. He also taught at the University of Texas at Austin, where he served as director of graduate studies, and at New York University, where he was chairman of the Cinema Studies Department. A trustee emeritus of the American Film Institute, Perry has also served as the visiting Henry Luce Professor of Film Studies at Harvard University.

His writing on film has resulted in several dozen articles and a number of books. As a frequent lecturer, he has spoken in the United States and abroad on various aspects of film. Additionally, he has written and directed plays for the stage and documentaries for television.

Romania, A Great Winter Destination to Help Kids

By Caroline Stauffer
Features Editor

Courtesy Photo

A Middlebury student volunteer plays with a Romanian orphan as part of David Parfitt's Winter Term class "Early Experiences and Brain Development."

Over Winter Term, 13 students participated in a unique service-learning project in Romania. Biology 270, "Early Experience and Brain Development," was the result of a year of organizational work by Assistant Professor of Biology David Parfitt.

According to Parfitt, who is a neuroscientist, the course was developed around laboratory research involving mice. Parfitt's lab received a large grant to study the effects of early experience on brain and behavioral development from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur and James McDonnell Foundation. The foundation is particularly interested in researching the effects of adverse experiences on brain development, and in exploring what can be done to combat those effects. Through the research foundation, Parfitt made a contact with a developmental psychology lab that was studying the effects of institutionalization on children. The lab, located in Bucharest, Romania, sought ways to reverse those effects through foster care.

After receiving the grant and contacting the lab in Romania, Parfitt began to seriously ponder offering a Winter Term course. He traveled to Romania last summer to meet with the researchers in Bucharest, but thought logistical constraints would prevent him from sponsoring a course. While still in Romania, Parfitt came across a magazine article about an organization called Global Volunteers. This organization runs service projects at orphanages year-round, including the one in Tutova where Parfitt's class traveled last month. During his preliminary travels, Parfitt also worked in a hospital in the town of Tutova and ironed out details for the course with Global Volunteers.

The course began with a week of background and orientation at Middlebury followed by two weeks of service in Romania and a final concluding week on campus. It was based on the scientific theory that the first two to three years of life are critical to the development of the brain and to human behavior.

During the initial week, the class studied primary scientific literature on how the experiences of early life are incorporated into the structures of the developing brain. They also considered how brain development impacts behavior.

Following the first week, the class traveled to Tutova, Romania. Tutova is located 20 minutes outside of the major city of Barlav, north of Bucharest.

Parfitt believes that the class was a great success.

"My thought while the class was going on was that this is what I envisioned a J-term class to be," he said.

The bulk of the classtime in Romania was spent at an orphanage that was an offshoot of the hospital Parfitt had worked at during the previous summer. The children range in age from infants to toddlers. Once the children near the age of three, they are either moved to a foster center or sent to a placement center.

All of the children that the students worked with had serious developmental delays. The class dealt with a one-year-old child who could not even sit up alone. They also saw children who were almost three years old, but could neither speak nor eat solid food. Some of the children were so inhibited that they were terrified when taken outside the hospital.

Courtesy Photo

Although the majority of David Parfitt's class was spent at the orphanage studying the effects of adverse experiences on early brain development, students had the opportunity to see other parts of Romania.

Other sights the class saw while in Romania relating to children included 200 abandoned children living in St. Catherine's, one of the oldest orphanages in Bucharest, the "failure to thrive ward" at Tutova Hospital and a modern placement center in Barlad that had just opened last year.

The students' jobs were to nurture and take care of the children. Because they were so young, language was not generally a barrier to the project.

According to Parfitt, the quality of the orphanages and the care the children received was hugely variable by locations.

All participants kept a daily journal while in Romania. To continue their studies of the brain and early development, the class would meet and have discussions over lunch. They studied the issue of abandoned children from neuroscientific, psychological, economic, political and cultural angles. Students researched and helped the children from 7:30 a.m. until at least 8:00 p.m. every day.

"We went into issues and concepts that we simply would not have been exposed to if we had stayed at Middlebury," Parfitt

(see Service, page 14)

Febs Face Registration

Vlad Lodoaba

Feb Orientation, *A new Feb faces a panel of Middlebury faculty while deciding upon his classes for his first semester. A new batch fo Febs replaced the graduates last week.*

What About Bob?

By Bob Wainwright
Columnist

While I always try to keep this column from becoming overly personal, shying away from topics such as the exorbitant number of on-line hits last week's column received, I do, however, feel compelled to mention that I inherited 50 million dollars over break.

Now I know what you're thinking. You're thinking, "Wow, what's he gonna *do* with all that money?"

Well, first things first, I'm going to find that young high school basketball player that everyone's been talking about and I'm going to buy him a whole stack of those retro jerseys he seems to enjoy. Because anyone with skills like his deserves a little gift every once in a while.

But after that, I'm going straight to Fox studios with my reality television series concept. My pitch is basically that I'll be this regular guy, who's just inherited 50 million dollars and is looking for a wife. Fox will provide me with 40 or so potential candidates and over the course of eight weeks I will narrow it down to one. But here's the twist. In the final episode, I will inform the winner that, while I am worth 50 million dollars, in order to marry me, she must sign a pre-nup. It'll be the television event of the year.

I have other golden ideas as well, such as "Axis Upheaval." Picture this: George Bush, Colin Powell, Kim Jung Il, Saddam Hussein, Vladimir Putin, French President Jacques Chirac, the two guys who duked it out in the Russian Parliament the other day, Osama bin Laden and the kid with the stupid facial expressions who does the Dell commercials all living under one roof, each with the hope of winning 25,000 U.S. dollars.

Just imagine Kim Jung Il's crazy antics as he tries to make Bush pay attention to him instead of Saddam; the endless arguments over who gets to be Powell's roommate; the hide-and-go-seek games with bin Laden as 'it;' and the inevitable heart-to-heart talks between Bush and the Dell dude: "Son, you know what I like to call the United Nations when no one's listening? UN-cool. Get it?" "Yeah, dude. So not cool. Hey, could you pass that back?"

As the only French guy in the house, Chirac, of course, will have the ultimate say over the decisions any alliances make, when voting someone out. And Putin will probably side with him, preferring that any argument be settled with fists and vodka in his Parliament. But in the spirit of reality, Bush may then say, "The game is over," and do what he pleases.

Inevitably, the giant SUV that is reality TV will run out of gas and networks will begin to search for the "next big thing." But I'm on top of that too. Imagine a weekly show with nothing to offer but beautiful properties for sale. I'm calling it: Realty TV — leave out the 'i' for 'intelligence.'

Service Learning and Unforgettable Children Transform Lives

(continued from page 13)
said. "And seeing the problem up close really energized the students to try to do something to make a difference."

The students also had a few opportunities to see the rest of Romania. A few students went with Parfitt to the University of Lasi to meet with some Romanian college students and their professor.

Parfitt described Lasi as "a beautiful city with old European and Parisian style buildings and streets." While there, the students and Parfitt stayed in a hotel designed by Alexandre-Gustave Eiffel. The whole class took a weekend trip to Transylvania to see the medieval city of Brasov and the castles at Bran and Sinaia. Parfitt describes the Peles Castle of King Carol I as "one of the most beautiful buildings I have ever seen."

The bulk of the trip, however, was spent at the orphanage and hospital, and Parfitt acknowledges that this experience was not representative of the country as a whole.

"It would be easy to come away thinking that Romania is a country totally made up of people that abandon their children and is defined by this problem," he said. "However, that would be narrow and limited. There are some beautiful parts of Romania."

Parfitt also praises the Romanian people.

> "The uplifting side of things was that you could see the children improve over the short period that we were there."
>
> —David Parfitt, assistant professor of biology

"I was constantly taken aback by how welcoming everyone is, and how giving everyone is — especially for people who (by our standards) have much less than we do," he said.

"All of us experienced some measure of culture shock upon arriving and seeing one of the more negative aspects of Romanian society," Edith Honan '03 agreed. "After a couple of days with the children, however, the experience became more positive."

"The uplifting side of things was that you could see the children improve over the short period that we were there," Parfitt said.

He went on to describe the improvements of the young boy he worked with for the entire two weeks. In the beginning, the child would not eat any solid food. But on the last day of the trip, he took bites of banana.

"The uplifting side of things was tempered by the fact that we know that the children are going to regress until the next team of volunteers comes," Parfitt concluded.

Upon returning to campus for the final week of Winter Term, each student had a final exam and final 10-page paper to complete. The papers were on different topics, such as nutrition or speech, but all addressed a problem or need of the hospital in Tutova. Honan's project was on peer interaction. She made recommendations to the hospital on how to facilitate play between children to make it a place more open to interaction.

Parfitt is currently compiling the papers into a booklet to send to the hospital to improve the orphanage's work. So far it is 145 pages.

"I believe the student's work and effort on these papers was at a much higher level because they wanted to help the hospital and the children they were working with," Parfitt said. "Again, I don't think the papers would have been as compelling if the students had stayed at Middlebury."

Watching Lava and Catching Rays in Winter

(continued from page 12)
iting numerous waterfalls and beaches.

Cubley had a specific favorite moment. "The highlight of our trip was without a doubt seeing the active lava flows of Kilauea. Watching a rock form right in front of your eyes is a powerful experience," he said.

To see the lava flows, the class took a night hike to Kilauea with a guide from the United States Geological Survey. At Kilauea, the class watched the lava flow from the hillside from about a meter away for around four hours.

"The best part of the trip was definitely seeing active lava flows," Peterman agreed. "We actually got to touch the lava and get a sense for the viscosity."

Lowe had a slightly differing opinion of the most positive aspect of the course.

"The sights were beautiful, of course, but the best part of the trip was the group of people that went," Lowe said. "It was so exciting to have a group of energetic and excited students all living and traveling around Hawaii together. I certainly won't forget this trip and these people easily."

Living With Carmen and Cultural Differences in Spain

(continued from page 12)
my strength because I, from that point on, realized how amazing this moment was and how closed my eyes had been to the world outside of my small-town American education and to what I had thus far witnessed in Spain.

Carmen later told me of the problem with domestic abuse in Spain. Abusive men are not punished until they finally kill their wives, a problem she is sure was not tolerated during the dictatorship. I find that extremely difficult to believe, yet she does have credence in the fact that the problem was far better controlled under Franco, a fact I have validated with Spaniards equally opposed to Franco as to Carmen who supported him. Months have passed since then, and I no longer live in Carmen's ornate apartment, yet her words stay with me during my discovery of this country and culture.

As far as the horror of battered women in Spain goes, I recently learned that last year 70 women were killed as a result of abuse, and in 2003, in less than two months, there have already been 9 documented deaths. I also saw a play that touched on this subject as well as on the issue of prostitution, something I witness almost every day. As early as one in the afternoon, I saw prostitutes lining a certain large street in the center of Madrid, right in the heart of the city. Although this issue is often addressed on the local news, no one seems to confront it head on.

On the other hand the Spanish city still riddled with public displays of affection that would make many Americans cringe. However, I learned two weeks ago that this overt expression of love is not simply because the Spanish people are less "bashful" than Americans, as my own preconceived stereotypes had led me to believe.

My theater professor told me a story of his youth in the late seventies, following Franco's death. He was passionately kissing his girlfriend in the street. A police car drove up to the couple, two policemen climbed out and one proceeded to hit the back of my professor's head with his night stick, growling in his ear that such behavior was reserved for the privacy of one's home. My professor said that at that time public displays of affection were considered a form of rebellion against the suppressive government.

I could only think of Carmen's desire that the policemen today would physically punish the street dwellers to maintain order, and how ironic it was that the first example I heard of such a punishment in the past was that of a boy being beaten for kissing his girlfriend. This process of learning two such different sides to the story and all that falls between, while also observing from my own biases the world around me, affords me a perspective that continues to have striking relevance.

Consequently the *rechazo* is long gone, my eyes are open much wider to what makes this country and the Spanish culture what it is today. However, I also recognize that first appearances, which so easily provoked *rechazo* in my first months here, can be far from the truth. I learned this above all from Carmen and my initial shock to her vehement love of Franco and his reign — a shock that transformed into a new appreciation of views that first seem wrong and disgusting, but in the end that have justly arisen from witnessing and experiencing history rather than reading and believing only one of its interpretations.

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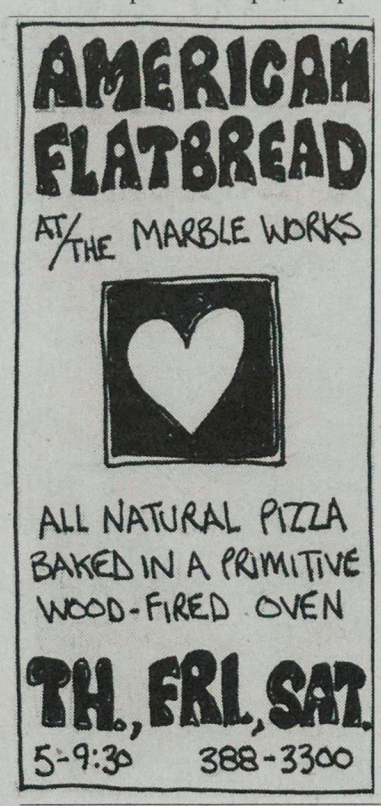

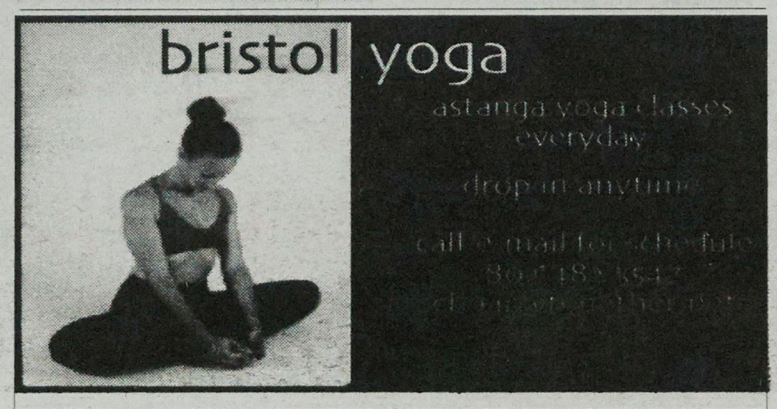

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British Singer David Gray Rocks Massachusetts Arena

Intimate, Energetic Show Brings Crowd to Its Feet, Despite Minor Flaws

By Suzanne R. Mozes
Arts Editor

David Gray's performance on Thursday, Jan. 30, at the intimate Tsongas Arena in Lowell, Mass., sustained the mounting hype surrounding his U.S. tour.

Soloing on piano, Gray opened with "The Other Side." However, with an unexpected sweep of the red velvet curtain serving as a lush backdrop, three other musicians joined him mid-song in an electrifying culmination.

This first song foreshadowed the power of the band's performance that evening.

Although the drum beat dominated in "Real Love" and both "My Oh My" and "White Ladder" came across a little coarse due to his stressed vocal cords, Gray's magnetic and rich voice created too many highlights during the show to be obscured by these insignificant weaknesses.

"Be Mine," accompanied by flashbulb lighting effects, energized the audience. "Flame Turns Blue" was complemented by video images on a backlit screen, which kept the technical wizardry going.

Already a decidedly soft, gentle and engaging performer, this 33 year old made it all too clear that he loves his art and his career. During "Late Night Radio," his wobbling head bobbed because he lost himself in his own song, and his dancing leg could not stop kicking because the beat radiated through his body.

He did not seem able to step back from his own music. He was incorporated into the song, he was encompassed by his own voice, he was overcome by his band's sound.

Just as Gray's flying arms and legs have become a signature of his style, so have his drummer's unbuttoned Hawiian shirt, wild twirling and puppet-like playing.

> Gray's worn, striped rugby shirt, shaggy haircut and scuffed Converse sneakers meshed with the band's laidback, un-pop star attitude and style.

Gray's worn, striped rugby shirt, shaggy haircut and scuffed Converse sneakers have meshed with the band's laidback, un-pop star attitude and style.

Alternating between the piano, guitar and synthesizer throughout the concert, Gray did not leave the crowd unsatiated.

His encore included the other half of his performance, beginning with an acoustic set and finishing with the crowd on its feet, waving its hands to the beat of "Please Forgive Me."

The band seemed to thrive on its sense of humor. Minor mistakes during Gray's performances have been cited in past reviews.

Nevertheless, the pattern of imperfections humanizes each of the performers, giving the audience something to hold onto in an endearing appreciation of the musicians.

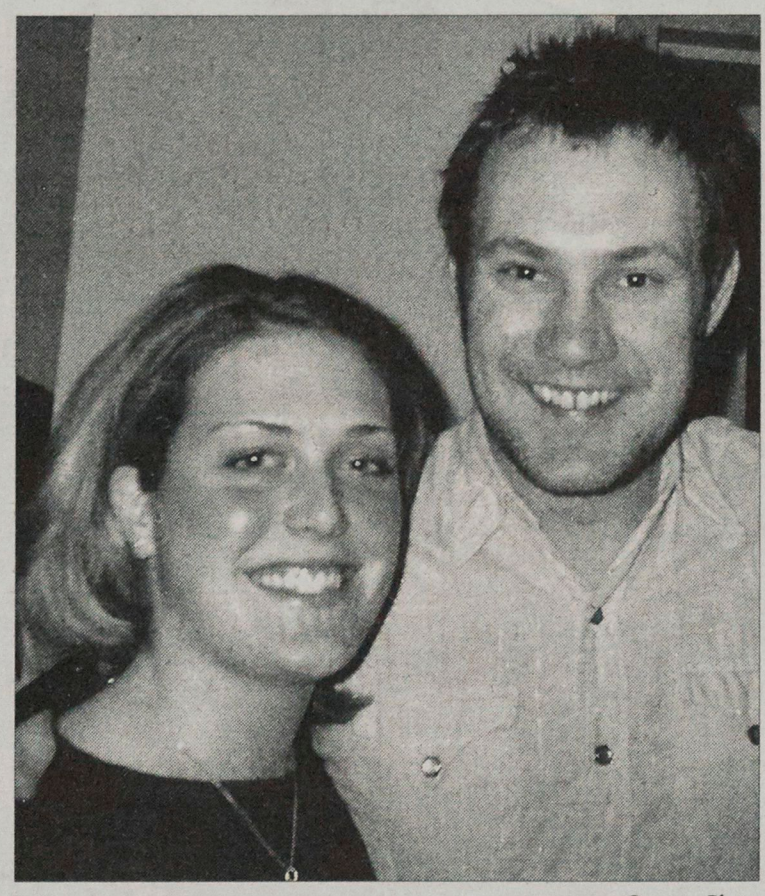
Even after entering too late on his own cue playing acoustic guitar during "Hold On," Gray could not but help to laugh at himself.

> His humor laced the concert between songs with comments such as "Bush is a twat."

His humor laced the concert between songs with comments such as "Bush is a twat."

The graceful black and white

(see Gray, page 18)



Courtesy Photo

Gray poses with Susan Goehring '05 at the after party of his sold out performance at Tsongas Arena on Thursday, Jan. 30. Gray played for well over two hours, leaving his audience satisfied.

Protest Drums Beat in Montpelier Peace Rally

By Daniel Roda
Staff Writer

On Saturday, Jan. 18, thousands of Vermonters flooded the streets of Burlington and Montpelier to protest the Bush regime's apparently inexorable determination to wage war on Iraq.

This, in conjunction with numerous other protests across the nation and the world, indicates an increasingly vocal and bold subculture comprised of people of all ages, backgrounds and beliefs.

People are willing to gather despite the arctic weather, their busy lifestyles and their differences in order to demonstrate and to march through the streets smiling, happily knowing that they are not alone.

They hop around to keep their feet from numbing as they listen to the amplified voices of Vermont's poets and political leaders speaking out against the racism, greed, hypocrisy and corporate interests that comprise the underlying reason for the United State's imminent invasion of Iraq.

> Thereon our destiny was forged, and we teamed with a regimen of brass and wood, to belt out "When the Saints Go Marching" and "Down by the River."

I traveled to Montpelier with four other Middlebury College students, ready to experience what I now know is a new level of community, a feeling of nondiscriminatory togetherness, a scene in which white-haired conscientious sages, otherwise mellow hippies and youthful sour-faced punks stride side by side.

The wave of anti-war sentiment has reached many levels of society here and abroad and has produced this subculture that joins together in song and art.

> An occasional drum rampage lit a match under the frozen buttocks of the protesters. Within minutes the streets were filled with thousands of people.

Hopefully, authority figures and corporate media establishment will no longer discourage us by calling us "slackers," "apathetic" or "obedient," and our art will continue to be free and powerful, free from the control of corporations.

We discovered free music on the streets of Montpelier that day. We sang and drummed together so loudly and with so much spirit that even militant fundamentalists, Wall Street crooks and drab finger-wagging oil execs were caught dancing on the sidewalks and hugging their neighbors.

Not knowing what to do when we arrived, we walked a couple of blocks and each brought another layer of socks to fend off the assailing numbness, and also to contribute to the friendly "mom and pop" economy of middle Vermont.

Finally, we made it to the Statehouse and discovered with some shock that we were among the first to arrive. So, we began to tinker with the makeshift signs that simply urged, "RESIST."

After putting some of these together, my attorney spotted the piles of musical instruments, most of them drums. Thereon our destiny was forged, and we teamed with a regimen of brass and wood to belt out "When the Saints Go Marching," "Down by the River" and an occasional drum rampage that lit a match under the frozen buttocks of the protesters.

Within minutes the streets were filled with thousands of people, marching proudly and singing aloud for peace, pounding with the rhythm to which my attorney, my advisor and I were modestly adding.

All around me was such a variety of humankind and such a positive feeling between us all, college students and farmers, workers and employers, Vietnam veterans

(see Protest Drums, page 18)

Opera Project Finishes on High Note

By Lucie Greene
Staff Writer

The production of "L'incoronazione di Poppea" by Claudio Monteverdi, was performed on Wednesday, Jan. 29, and Thursday, Jan. 30, in the Center for the Arts Concert Hall, as the final result of both two semesters of opera study, and one intense Winter Term production course.

A joint project between the Italian and Music Departments, the performance was intended to be a working process.

Not only did students study a particular composer and opera in depth, but they also received hands-on experience in performing and creating a live piece through a cycle of vocal training, rehearsal and academic study of the opera within its context.

Assistant Professor of Italian David Castronuovo, who has several years of operatic experience, chose "L'incoronazione di Poppea" specifically for its passionate and powerful storyline.

This, he said, would appeal to young students and spark their interest in the opera genre. With the help of Visiting Assistant Professor of Music Stacy Moore and voice coaches Cynthia Huard, Carol Christensen and Beth Thompson-Kaiser, the cast reached their highest potential, which they displayed to an audience of supportive students, patrons and colleagues.

Jarl von Arlyon, a well-known director who recently put up the same opera in Manhattan, directed the Middlebury performance.

The story centers on Emperor Nero (Jake Nicholson '05), who is hounded by his Mistress Poppea (Dorothy Resig '04) to rid himself of both his wife Empress Octavia (Allison Miller '05) and his most trusted advisor Seneca (Ben Fainstein '04). Thorin Schiber '04.5 played Ottone, a general in love with Poppea who left him for the emperor, while Teal Tigner '05 took the role of Dursilla, who wins over Ottone and shares in his banishment after he attempts to murder Poppea. The piece begins with an introductory trio, which included two of the voice coaches, Thomp-

(see Opera, page 18)

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Hilarity in the Halls of Academia

By Edward Pickering
News Editor

Few professions are impervious to the satirist's pen, least of all the academic one. Students and professors live and work in a more or less enclosed society, peacefully sequestered in green quadrangles where the buildings face inward.

The academic world has its own peculiar rituals as well as mores.

Such a society easily lends itself to mockery and an able satirist can have a field day with it, which is precisely what Kingsely Amis had 50 years ago.

In "Lucky Jim," Amis savagely ridicules academic life with unparalleled comic brilliance.

Amis brings his devastating wit to bear on all the familiar parts of the establishment: professors, papers, students and intradepartmental liaisons.

Amis' protagonist is Jim Dixon, a young man working toward a professorship in medieval history, a confessedly useless subject.

Dixon is harassed, overworked and utterly repulsed by academia, the very society he strives to enter.

He loathes it in all its ugly and pretentious trappings.

He especially abhors his advisor, Welch, the man who has "decisive power over [Dixon's] future."

Welch's inanity, self-conceit and general ineptitude drive Jim to unimaginable lengths of disgust, fury and comic invention.

Invited to spend the weekend at the Welches', Dixon drinks himself into a stupor with the foreseeable result that he neglects to extinguish his cigarette before collapsing in bed.

He wakes to find burns in the bedclothes, rug and on the nightstand of the guest room in which he has been staying.

Frantically Dixon rearranges the room. In doing so, he enlists the help of Christine, the beautiful girlfriend of Welch's son, Bertram, a pompous, beret-wearing artist who antagonizes Dixon.

Dixon falls for Christine, but complications ensue as Dixon entangles himself in a hilariously evasive game with Mrs. Welch and Bertram. Mrs. Welch will discover the damage to her home and seek retribution forthwith, and Bertram will fight Dixon for Christine.

Welch's inanity, self-conceit and general ineptitude drive Jim to unimaginable lengths of disgust, fury and comic invention.

Dixon's situation is dire. On a week's notice, Welch burdens Dixon with the dreadful task of delivering the evening lecture for College Open Week.

A more inane topic could not have been devised by even the most unfriendly of gods — Dixon must speak for 50 minutes on "merrie England."

Dixon is plagued by Margaret, a fellow would-be professor and an incurable neurotic, with whom Dixon has had a muddled, maddening and, sadly, sexless relationship. Then, the editor who accepted one of Dixon's recent articles disappears from England, leaving Dixon unpaid and his career unadvanced. Further obligations and frustrations compound Dixon's plight.

In this brilliantly comedic tale, Dixon extricates himself from them — in effect how he removes himself from academia — and in the process wins the girl. Dixon's speech parodies academic rhetoric.

Throughout the novel, Dixon forever invents on-the-spot evasions and vents his rage in ridiculous ways such as making infantile faces.

Once, in the presence of Welch, Dixon determines to speak his mind, a proposition that, like so many of his plans, never comes to fruition.

"He no longer wanted, for example, to inscribe on the departmental timetable a short account, well tricked out with obscenities, of his views on the professor of history, the department of history, medieval history, history, and Margaret and hang it out of the window for the information of passing students and lecturers, nor did he, on the whole, now intend to tie Welch up in his chair and beat him about the head and shoulders with a bottle until disclosed why, without being French himself, he'd given his son French names, nor ... No, he'd just say, quite quietly and very slowly and distinctly, to give Welch a good chance of catching his general drift: "Look here, you old cockchafer, what makes you think you can run a history department, even at a place like this, eh, you old cockchafer?"

However, Dixon does go through with many gags, tricks and ploys that will make you roar with laughter. Dixon's mishaps and premeditated pranks are riotous. In one memorable passage, Dixon torments a disagreeable fellow in his boarding house by materially altering the cover photo on a magazine the man has received.

"Working quickly but carefully, he began altering the composer's face with a soft black pencil. The lower lip he turned into a set of discoloured snaggleteeth, adding another lower lip, thicker and looser than the original, underneath. Dueling scars appeared on both cheeks, hairs as thick as tooth picks sprang from the widened nostrils" and so on.

"Lucky Jim" is a satire of such humor, and venom, that few students are likely to forget either its setting — a college campus like our own — or its harried protagonist, the wildly inventive and utterly likeable Dixon.

Joe Feb-ionare

Vlad Lodoaba

Performing for the new Febs, *David Lindholm '05, Lauren Markham '05.5 and Parker Diggory '04.5 partake in a skit entitled "Joe Feb-ionaire."*

Blowin' Indie Wind

Sondre Lerche Raises Spirits with Debut Album 'Faces Down'

By Erika E. Mercer
Arts Editor

It's like eating a pack of Starburst candies — the flavor is fruity and sweet, sugary and satisfying. Each one is pleasingly chewy and sticky, leaving you minutes afterwards to unearth tiny strawberry-tasting remains hiding between your teeth's crevices.

The Artist: Sondre Lerche
The Album: "Faces Down"
2002

Even the more bitter flavors — lemon, for example — never seem too sour, always promising a sweet aftertaste and a fresh change from the cherry flavor that you unwrapped and relished just before.

Over the past half-year, Sondre Lerche has dazzled the American music scene with his blue eyes and astounded critics with his quirky, expressive voice.

Already with his first full-length album, "Faces Down," the 20-year-old Scandinavian singer/songwriter has attained the number one spot on Rolling Stone's "Hot Picks" list, along with receiving a number of other enthusiastic reviews.

Born and raised in Bergen, a small town and well-known hub for musicians on the west coast of Norway, Lerche, the youngest of four siblings, began taking guitar lessons at age eight and wrote his first song, "Locust Girl," at age 14. With the help of his sister, who worked at a local bar, he was able to land live shows at venues in his area already at an early age.

In addition to sixties pop records with which he grew up, Lerche was also heavily influenced by the local Norwegian music he heard at the clubs and bars where he played.

In a recent interview, the singer commented on his respect for the local Norwegian music scene, along with his desire to develop beyond that scene: "You see what you want to be and what you don't want to be mirrored in your own town."

Lerche successfully uses his musical background and cultural roots as a foundation for his music, then builds on this foundation to create sounds that transcend locality and bear universal appeal.

In February 2001, Lerche released his first EP, entitled, "You Know So Well," under Virgin Records. The album found immediate and enormous success in Norway, and was followed several months later (Aug. 2002) by a second EP, "Dead Passengers."

Then, in Sept. 2002, Lerche released "Faces Down," the album that has since dubbed him the "wunderkind" of indie music and initiated a tour with singer/songwriter Beth Orton.

"Faces Down" enlists Frode Unneland on drums, H.P. Gundersen on piano, Kato Aadland on guitar, Joergen Traen and Morten Skage on bass, Lillian Samdal on back-up vocals, and

(see Lerche, page 19)

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Gray Blends Smart Lyrics and Humor at Tsongas Gig

(continued from page 16)
videography complemented the band's jesting.

The shuffling live images adhered to Gray's image while unifying the entire concert.

Born in Manchester, England but brought up in the Welsh fishing village of Solva, Gray began his songwriting at age 17.

> Gray recorded the tracks for "White Ladder" in his London bedroom with the windows wide open, trucks rumbling past and construction workers drilling below on the pavement.

First releasing "A Century Ends" (1993), "Flesh" (1994) and "Sell, Sell, Sell" (1996), he self-financed his fourth album "White Ladder" (2000).

Gray recorded the tracks for "White Ladder" in his London bedroom with the windows wide open, trucks rumbling past and construction workers drilling below on the pavement. This recording situation gave the album a distinctly urban texture.

Gray explained to CNN, "I recorded at home, in part, because I didn't really have any money, but also I like the sound of it.

"I thought there was a kind of character to the stuff that we were doing. It sounded very natural." White Ladder achieved tremendous success, spending over 100 weeks on the UK Top 40 charts, going platinum seven times in the UK with sales of over 2.2 million and providing many tracks for the film "This Year's Love," starring Kathy Burke, Dougray Scott and Jennifer Ehle.

Due to the limits of his bedroom/recording studio, the album had to be kept within a certain "sphere."

Maintaining artistic integrity, Gray did not try to release his next album "A New Day at Midnight" (2002) as a way to supersede his past success.

"The task I faced was to get past all that, and get on with the job of writing and recording some music that articulated how I was thinking and feeling in the here and now," he explained.

Gray prefers "the instinctive feel of things," which seems to unite his body of work.

His intelligent lyrics, usually deliberating on relationships and spirituality, soothe his "decidedly young, mature, cute couply audience" that appears at most of his concerts, according to Micheal Osborche.

However, Gray's astute wit and intellect failed him following the concert due to an inevitable exhaustion from his high-energy, high-caliber show.

When approached at the afterparty, his kindness, however, carried him through the autographs, pictures and smiles in a very low-key, candle-lit environment.

Vlad Lodoaba

Dorothy Resig gestures theatrically in the opera, "Poppea," impressing audiences with her performance in the Center for the Arts Concert Hall on Jan. 29 and 30.

Opera 'Poppea' Meets Warm Reception

(continued from page 16)
son-Kaiser and Christensen.

While giving the pair a chance to exhibit their talents, this established a high production standard that all the other performers would follow.

As the performance progressed, various characters entered into the plot line, allowing those not as developed or confident vocally to still play a role in the project. This project allowed a broader range of talents to contribute. This ambitious piece was performed with an obvious sense of fun and enthusiasm.

The high caliber opera made the audience want to stay, if only to congratulate the performers. Resig and Fainstein both gave outstanding performances with their rich and accomplished voices.

They seemed to have the strongest and most natural grasp of the genre.

The choral sections, tribunes and Councils of Rome mourning Seneca's condemnation provided a refreshing change of style from the series of extended solos.

The choral sections were executed extremely well, with a beautiful and sensitive handling of the chord changes and melody. Although created in a very short time, the set and costumes still stood out.

Transformed by a series of classical Roman arches and illuminated by simple white lights, the concert hall provided a beautiful atmosphere with its clean abstracted lines.

The costumes, combinations of Romanesque influences, suited the performers.

The performer's voices sounded fully developed and operatic given their ages and the short time spanned for production. The work stands more as a testament to the ethos of the Center for the Arts in general, as is pointed to in the opera's introduction by Liza Sacheli in "Arts at Middlebury College."

She emphasizes that the process of creating art is in many ways more important than the actual product. "L'incorazione di Poppea," while an extremely strong production in its own right, confirms Sacheli's statement.

Opera is very rarely made accessible, and is often seen as very intellectual and elevated art form. This experience demonstrates invaluable understanding of a key part of Italian language and culture and potential for bridging this gap.

The creative process and participation involved in producing the opera constituted the central positive aspect of the experience.

Protest Drums Beat Anti-war Message

(continued from page 16)
and small children, and even dogs!

Off-duty police officers showed up to protest. Teachers were also there from Mary Hogan Elementary School and Middlebury College, such as Benjamin F. Wissler Professor of Physics Richard Wolfson.

All joined in to experience this celebration of community, collaboration, art and love for one another and for those with whom we share our planet.

The demonstration included an anti-war poetry reading, a Dylanesque performance by a member of the local band, Small Axe, and even a speech from a sixth grade boy.

His speech began, "I'm scared, and I'm confused," and it was infused with the genuine common sense that contrasted the militant rhetoric characteristic of our sitting president.

On Saturday, Feb. 15, there will be yet another peaceful demonstration of popular discontent in New York City, only this one will not be viewed as legal by the local authorities.

Yet a choice between silence and civil disobedience is no choice at all, and those among you who would like to experience this kind of communion would do well to show up.

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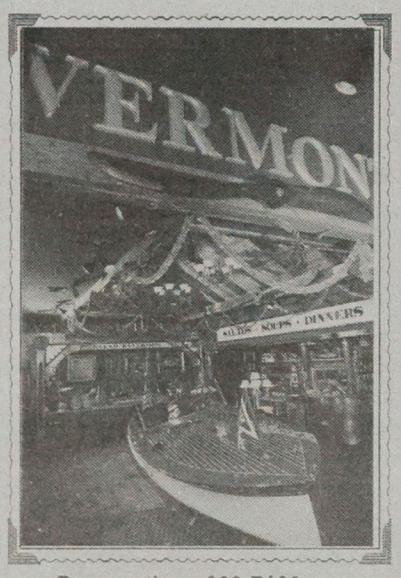

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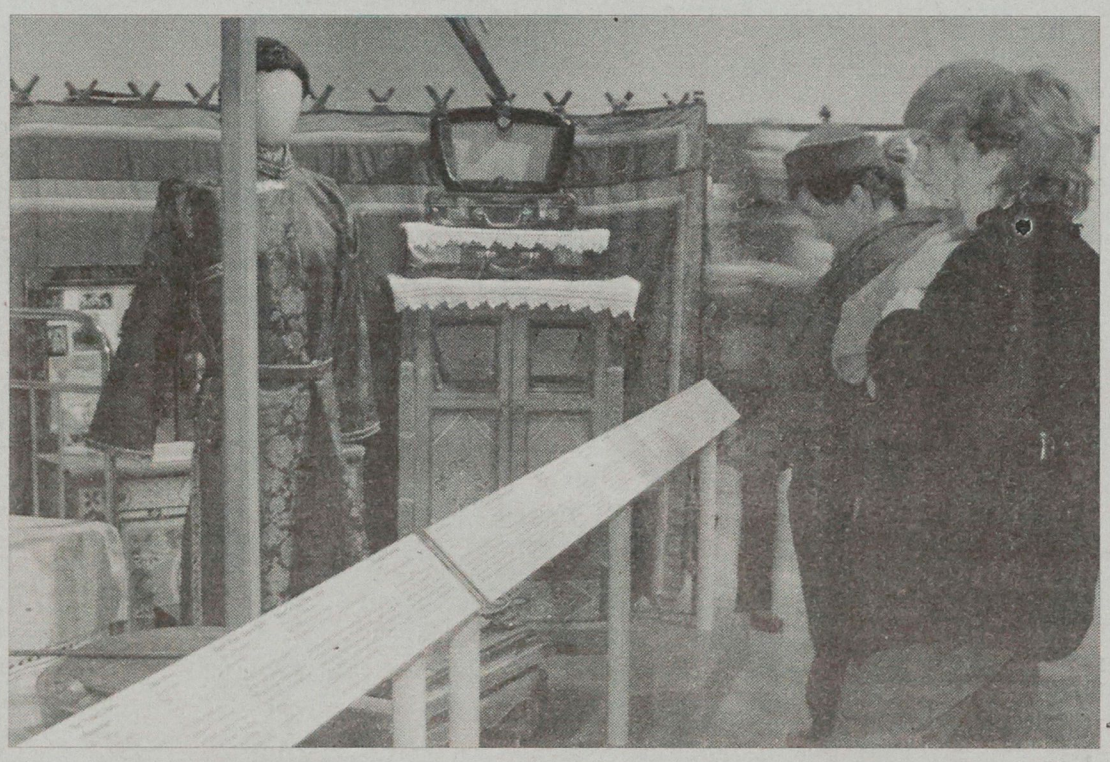


Name

Recently opened at the Middlebury College Center for the Arts, *"Modern Mongolia: Reclaiming Ghengis Khan" presents dioramas of Mongolian tents from the pre-Socialist era to modern times.*

Lerche Leaps to Fame with New Album

(continued from page 17)

Lerche on keyboard, guitar and vocals.

Sounding something like David Gray with a Norwegian accent, Rufus Wainwright on anti-depressants or the Beatles gone indie, Lerche's music is accessible and original, melodic and eccentric.

He creates catchy folk and pop songs using complex musical arrangements and a range of different styles from psychedelia to Brazilian pop.

> Lerche creates catchy folk and pop songs using complex musical arrangements and a range of different styles from pyschedelia to Brazilian pop.

His voice, a lilting falsetto, fluctuates between sounding rich and deep to high and soft, effortlessly expressing a variety of emotions within one song — emotions, though, which always return to an optimistic note.

Lerche's songs are relentlessly sweet and hopeful, even the slower, drippy ballads — the lemon candies in the pack — such as "Side Two," the fifth song on "Faces Down," in which he sings about "these tortured souls [...] the tortured young and old."

Yet just when the lyrics begin to despair, they are uplifted by Lerche's sweet, youthful voice.

While this cheerfulness is mostly rewarding, at times it results in songs that border on sounding too cute and now and then cross the line into corny.

"Modern Nature," for example, the sixth song on the album, tends towards sounding overly cutesy with its light, show-tune tone.

Lerche, in a duet with Samdal, croons, "This is how it was meant to be," and the listener can't help picturing Fred Astaire singing away in the rain.

In general, though, the songs are sweet, colorful and fun—they celebrate music and the love of music.

Lerche's impressive lyrics (with only minor exceptions—forgivable for a writer whose native language is not English) add to the caliber of his songwriting: in "Sleep on Needles," the third song on "Faces Down," Lerche sings, "I am but a fool to play unaware of things / If I treasured the truth, I would tell it to you?"

"Faces Down" is an accomplished debut album from a talented young songwriter. Lerche combines a strong musical background with innovative techniques and immense natural talent to produce an album that is charming and vibrant.

For more information on Sondre Lerche, check out his website at www.sondrelerche.com, a comprehensive site including a biograhy, lyrics, guitar TAB, tour info, photos and videos.

Lerche will be spending the next few months on a U.S. tour.

Packed McCullough Listens to Feb Voices

Vlad Lodoaba

As part of the Feb orientation, which spanned this past week, *new Feb students gathered in McCullough Social Space to watch "Voices of the Class." 129 new students began their Middlebury careers with last week's orientation events.*

art calendar

(hey, get outta town.)

music

GOSPEL FEST 2003: The new Alpha Missionary Baptist Church celebrates black history with old-fashioned Christian praise. The New Alpha Choir and the Burlington Ecumenical Choir, directed by minister John Hagwood, belt out glorifying notes. Sunday, Feb. 16 at 5 p.m. Flynn Center, Burlington. Info: www.flynncenter.com.

PSYCHEDELIC BREAKFAST—RAQ—NAMED BY STRANGERS: Immersing themselves in the power of the musical moment, RAQ appreciates the spirit of improvisation. Layering their compositions, they begin with the basic song structure and build upon this foundation until the music journeys into utter chaos. Wednesday, Feb. 12 at 8 p.m. Higher Ground, Winooski. $7 at the door. Info: www.highergroundmusic.com.

DEL MCCOURY BAND STARLINE RHYTHM BOYS: Playing off of audience requests and refusing to pre-arrange his set, Del McCoury plays on bluegrass on the guitar, complemented by his two sons, Ronnie on the mandolin and Rob on the banjo. With a total of 24 International Bluegrass Music Association awards to their name, this group of entertainers should not be missed. Thursday, Feb. 13 at 7 p.m. Higher Ground, Winooski. $18 advance. $20 day of the show. Info: highergroundmusic.com.

art

VIEWS THROUGH A LENS: Matthew Thorsen exhibits "human flavor drinks" in a series of photographs documenting his environment. He mixes the ugly and the beautiful in random and planned scenes. He reinvents his past reputation as a news photographer with this non-standard show. Through Feb. 16. Free. Red Square Bar and Grille, 136 Church Street, Burlington. Info: 859-8909.

theater

SEKOU SUNDIATA—BLESSING THE BOATS: This solo work highlights urban poet Sekou Sundiata during three years of his life — a time of personal and physical traumas. Sundiata looks provocatively at the world around him with poetry, prose and monologue, accompanied by a sound score. Feb. 20 and 21 at 8 p.m. Flynn Theater, Burlington. Info: www.flynncenter.com.

dance

"FITTING ROOM": Alison Goldfarb presents an experimental dance performance combining dancers with technical backgrounds to create a unique form of choreography. Each member is trained in traditional and non-traditional disciplines. Tuesday, Feb. 18 at 7:30 p.m. Flynn Theater, Burlington. Info: www.flynncenter.com.

lessons

LIFE DRAWING: Tired of art teachers looking over your shoulder? Models pose for these non-instructed classes where you can light your creativity on fire. Held each Monday at the Firehouse Center for the Visual Arts, 135 Church Street, Burlington. $5 at the door. No registration necessary. Info: 865-7166.

other

"MADAME BUTTERFLY": What are you doing on Valentine's day? Grab your beau and head up to Burlington for this romantic opera by Puccini. This classical master tells a tale of romance and tragic betrayal in deep-throated music of unsurpassed beauty. Friday, Feb. 14 at 7:30. Flynn Theater, Burlington. Info: www.flynncenter.com.

editor's pick

SLY, SEXY SONGS FOR VALENTINE'S DAY: Eve Beglarian and Phil Kline, two of contemporary music's most exciting composers/performers, explore love, longing and libido in this sexy show. Feb. 14. Flynn Center, Burlington. Info: www.flynncenter.com.

Strong Finishes from Youngsters Give Alpine Team Familiar Results

By Andrew Zimmerman
Senior Staff Writer

At essentially the midway point in its season, the Middlebury alpine ski team finds itself in its usual position: looking up at the University of Vermont (UVM) and Dartmouth College and looking down at all its New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) brethren. Over February break the team competed at the UVM and Dartmouth carnivals finishing fourth and third respectively. As has been the trend in recent years, young, underclassman talent has been on the fast track leading Middlebury towards the NCAA championships in March.

The first weekend of February break saw one of the lone seniors on the team making a splash, however. Eric Rygg '03, an experienced racer, particularly in giant slalom (GS), sped to a third-place finish in the GS on Stowe's Mount Mansfield. The Middlebury men also placed John Rusten '05, David Coriell '06 and Josh Transue '06 in the top 10.

It was Transue, a vaunted first-year talent, that led the men in the slalom with an eighth-place finish to rally the squad. Laura Scripture '04 led the women in the same race to the tune of a lightening quick 1:38.36, good enough for fifth.

In the GS Jessica Smith '05 led the women, finishing a respectable 13th. She was followed by Nina Porcelli '04 who was just .24 seconds behind, ending up in 15th.

This past weekend the team traveled to Dartmouth Skiway to compete in a race that is known to be dominated by flat terrain, putting a premium on riding a flat ski. Smith showed her ability to ski the flats well, again leading the women in the GS with a 10th place result. Molly Russell '05 came in 18th to help the Panther cause.

Both the men and the women took a chance to survey the hill as it will serve as the host of the alpine portion of the 2003 NCAA Championship. Rygg, quite familiar with Dartmouth, cruised to a 10th place finish just behind teammate David Coriell. But the headlines belonged to Peter Phillips '05, who jumped into the fray with an impressive fourth. Phillips is one of the handful of new names that have been grabbing good results on the Panther men's side.

Unfortunately one of those names that escaped last year to UVM was Jimmy Cochran of the famous Cochran skiing family. The UVM sophomore showed promise here at Middlebury last year but not to the extent he has been showing this year, currently the Eastern Intercollegiate Ski Association (EISA) leader in the GS and slalom standings. He added to his lead at the Dartmouth carnival by winning the slalom handily. Consistent finisher Rusten came in seventh with youngster Transue in ninth. Scripture on the women's side worked her way through the gates to a seventh-place finish to once again lead the Panther women in the slalom.

As the season progresses Middlebury can look towards the NCAAs. The team will travel to Western Massachusetts to the Williams carnival this weekend before returning home for Winter Carnival. The remaining challenge lies in preparing for the championships and trying to unseat the powers at the top, Dartmouth and UVM.

Courtesy Photo

Jessica Smith '05 played a part in Middlebury's third-place finish in last week's third place finish in the Dartmouth Carnival.

Midd Men to Face Best and Worst In Final NESCAC Weekend

(continued from page 24)

for us to take that next step towards becoming a more explosive team. I wouldn't say that anyone is satisfied with the season. We have been happy with our play on occasions but we are never really satisfied. There is always the hunger for something bigger and better down the road."

Currently, the positioning of teams in the upper echelon of the NESCAC is very tight. The top four teams — Middlebury, Trinity, Colby and Bowdoin — are separated by just five points. With two weeks left in the regular season, each team will play at least two more games against league opponents, which will be paramount in terms of the final league standings. Middlebury, which has 27 league points overall, will host second-place Trinity on Feb. 14. Should the Panthers manage to pull out a victory on Valentine's Day, they would only have league cellar-dweller Wesleyan left on their schedule of NESCAC opponents.

"This weekend will present a great opportunity for us to see where we are as a team," said Chisholm. "Playing us will bring out Trinity's best and we will enjoy the challenge because it will force us to get better as a team. This game may decide who wins the NESCAC regular season title and who is likely to host the NESCAC Championships."

With two wins this weekend at Kenyon Arena, the NESCAC regular season title will be solidified.

Women's Hoop Look to Ride Camel Win

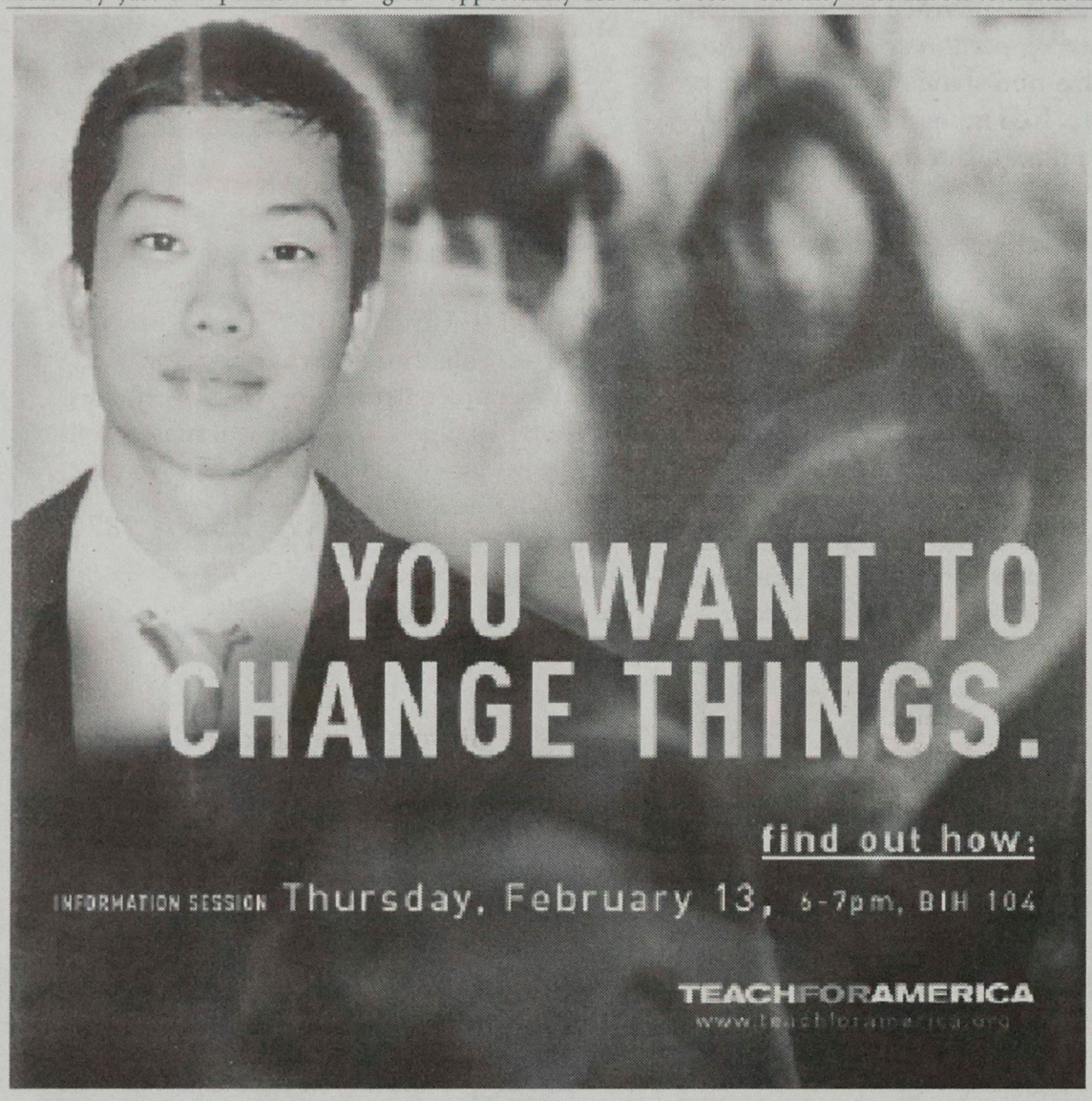
(continued from page 24)

bounds.

The next game was deja-vu for the Panthers as they fell to Wesleyan 54-50 in the final minutes of the game. A late three by Hanley, who had 16 points on the day, brought the Panthers within two, but they were unable to clinch the win. Hyatt scored nine and Batten pulled down 11 rebounds.

Despite the recent results, the Panthers are determined not to let the disappointments knock them off track. The team will be looking to contend for the NESCAC Championship, and the players on the team are determined to remain optimistic. Hanley commented, "Although we haven't been successful in terms of wins and losses over the last week, we're really coming together and improving in many of the areas that we need to improve in order to win more games. We're coming away from these losses feeling good about certain things," she added.

In the next week, the Panthers have three games, all on the road. First, the team will meet Southern Vermont on Wednesday, and will follow that matchup with a long road trip to Tufts and Bates this weekend, hoping using their momentum from the Camel win to make winning a pattern and give them confidence for the playoffs.



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Women Squash Opponents in Final Test Before Nationals

By Holly Haertel
Staff Writer

Going into the last tournament of the season, the Middlebury women's squash team was boasting a record of 8-3 having only lost to Colby, Bowdoin and Amherst in the regular season. However, after traveling to Smith this past weekend, they have added three wins to their record. Having competed against Smith and Wesleyan on Friday night, the women beat both teams, 8-1 and 9-0 respectively. Despite facing a formidable Tufts squad on Saturday, the Panthers still managed to come out of the match unscathed, with a 9-0 victory. All three wins from this past weekend will help bring the women's team to a number 14 national ranking.

There were many notable matches throughout the weekend, beginning at the bottom of the ladder with newcomer Ashley Pullen '05, who made her debut this weekend after only a few weeks of practice. Playing in the number nine position, Gigi Gatewood, '03 had probably the toughest weekend, battling out two five-game matches on Friday night. She and her opponent from Wesleyan were very closely matched, but Gatewood pulled through with a 3-2 win.

Women's Squash

Friday, January 31st

Middlebury	9
Wesleyan	0

Saturday, February 1st

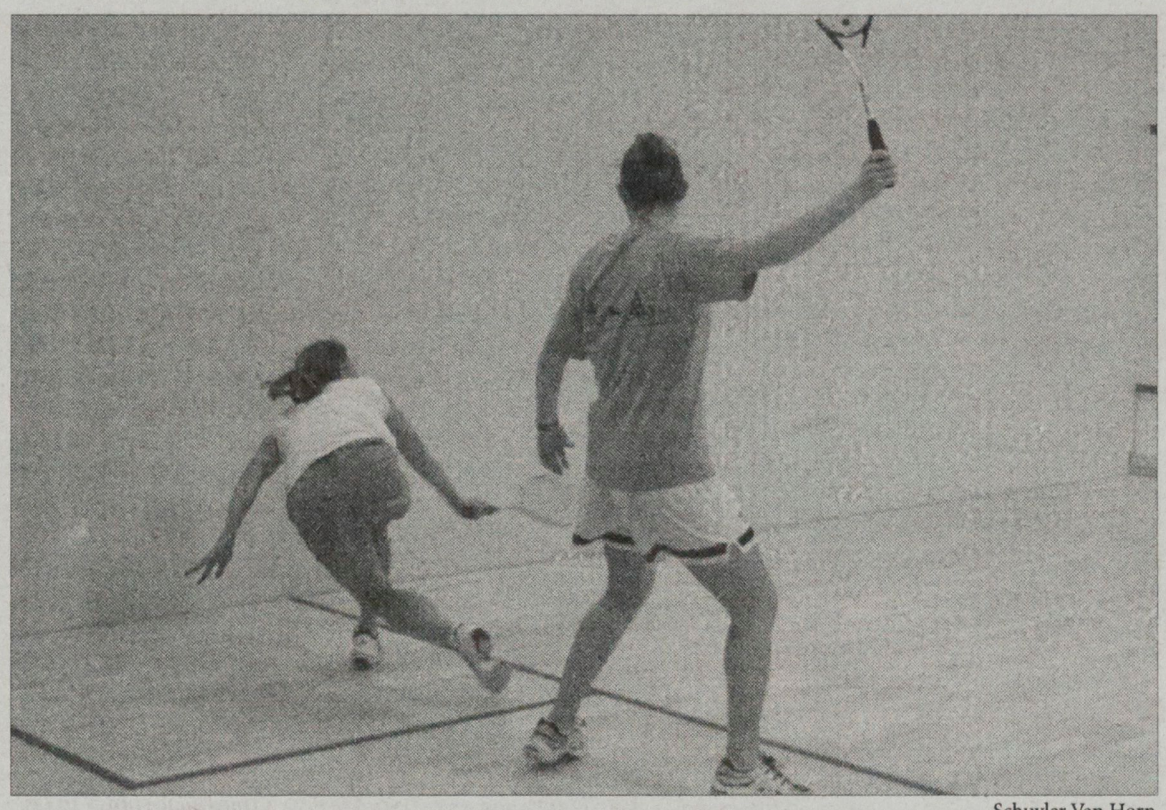
Middlebury	9
Tufts	0

Starting in the number seven and eight positions, first-years Caitlin Flint and Alexandra Polemis both had impressive and undefeated weekends. In the number six position Chrissie Fuld '03 had a tough match on Saturday against Tufts. She began down in the first game but was able to fight back and help the Panthers to a flawless finish. Lauren Smith '05 had a great match against the Smith captain and was able to pull through with a win. Eliza Funston '03, Beth Seeley '05 and Holly Haertel '05 who play in spots three, two and one respectively all had undefeated weekends.

Pullen commented, "As a new member of the team, I was very impressed by their performance last weekend at the match. Haertel's 3-2 victory against a tough Tufts number one was a great display of how hard each team member fought for every point."

This upcoming weekend the women will face their toughest competition yet, as they travel to the Howe Cup Intercollegiate Nationals that is held at Yale University every year. The women will enter the Howe Cup in the middle of the second division of four teams and will be matched up with teams they have already played in the regular season, such as Colby, Bowdoin, Amherst and Saint Lawrence. In addition, the Panthers will compete against some teams they have not played yet such as Cornell and Bates. The Panthers hope to use confidence from their recent success to propel them to victory as well as an impressive 11-3 record thus far.

> As a new member of the team, I was very impressed by [the Panthers] performance last weekend at the match...each team member fought for every point.
>
> —Ashley Pullen '05



Schuyler Van Horn

Liz Pilkington '03 (left) and Beth Seeley are among the players preparing for the Howe Cup.

Rodgers and Kuzzy Lead Nordic Men

(continued from page 22)

mediately by Johnson in ninth place. Skiing strong, but continuing to lose ground, Whitcomb finished out the Carnival scoring finishing in 17th place. Anderson was close behind her in 22nd place and Taylor Leach finished with a strong 25th. Berkley Leach finished just outside of NCAA qualification in the 31st spot.

With temperatures going above freezing and blue skies, the men's 20-kilometer classical race began in a flourish of bright lycra and whipping poles. The 10-kilometer course featured seven kilometers of rolling ascent followed by a fairly technical and icy downhill back into the stadium. Coming out of the stadium, Weston led all skiers with an amazing show of double poling ability. Close behind him were Rodgers, Kuzzy, Whitcomb and Greene with Roche battling for position after dealing with a slightly slower start.

> Weston, Roche, Whitcomb and Greene had all found each other and were skiing in an impressive train of Middlebury force.

The first lap saw two Dartmouth skiers pull ahead, but Rodgers remained strong in fifth place, close behind the lead pack. Kuzzy fell back a few places, but with nine kilometers remaining, he began to push from ninth place to catch back up to Rodgers. Behind them, Weston, Roche, Whitcomb and Greene had all found each other and were skiing in an impressive train of Middlebury force.

Coming into the finish, Rodgers led the Panthers with another excellent race finishing in sixth place, nearly five feet out of fifth place as he came from 50 meters behind to almost beat Tom Temple of Dartmouth. Right on Rodgers' heals was Kuzzy finishing his great race in seventh place. Close behind and very amazing to see was the train of Middlebury skiers that stuck together all the way to the top of the 500-foot climb. Weston finished 13th, Roche 14th, Whitcomb 15th and Greene 16th, placing all Panther skiers well within the top 20 places.

With two carnivals to go, the Panther Nordic skiers are showing excellent promise. This includes the Middlebury Carnival, to be held the weekend of February 21, which is one of the most important events for the Panther skiers. We can also look forward to more EISA action next weekend at Mount Prospect, Vermont, where Middlebury will compete in the Williams Carnival. The NCAA nationals begin March 3 at Dartmouth, and Middlebury will be looking to improve on their successes of last year.

Nate Anderson, Player of the Week

Louisa Conrad

Nate Anderson '04, *shown here in an afternoon shoot-around, was named NESCAC and ECAC Men's Basketball Player of the Week on Feb. 3. His career-high 34 points, including the game winner with four seconds left, gave Middlebury an 82-80 win over Bowdoin.*

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Swimmers Come Up Short Against Williams, Prepare For Final Meets

By David Freedman
Staff Writer

With the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) Championships coming in the next few weeks, the Middlebury men's and women's swimming and diving teams took advantage of their last breaths of free time before spring classes begin to relax and take pride in what they have accomplished so far this season.

On Feb. 8, the College hosted the Middlebury Invitational, a meet where no scores are tabulated but times are recorded. The event drew ranging teams from NESCAC rivals to local colleges to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The format of the event allows teams to showcase some swimmers who will not compete in postseason meets to end their season on a high note, while at the same time putting the rest of the teams in off-events to keep them fairly sharp before any championship meets.

Men's Swimming & Diving

Saturday, February 1st

Middlebury	79
Williams	215

Because of the limitations NESCAC puts on the number of swimmers a school can bring to the championship, many members of the women's team competed in their last meet of the season. These swimmers and divers put on their best performances of the year. Trista McGetrick '06 and Kate Veenker '06 swam their best 50 splits of the year in the 200 medley relay, while Erica Norman '06 and Whitney Sones '05 had season-high times in the 50 butterfly, and Elise Beeger '06 swam under a minute in the 100 freestyle for the first time in her career. The Middlebury divers also went out with a bang: Laura Shaw '05, Tessa Truex '05 and Juliana Muir '04 finished with their highest scores yet (235.45, 234.25, 196.30 respectively) as well as Molly Callahan '04 finishing coming in over 200 points.

Women's Swimmng & Diving

Saturday, February 1st

Middlebury	116
Williams	184

While the men did compete, they were not shaved and tapered for the event; nevertheless some of the Middlebury swimmers put up impressive times. Austin Krissoff '06 dropped 36 seconds in the 1,000-yard freestyle to win the event and put him in seventh place overall in the NESCAC rankings. Co-Captain Ricky Barfus '03 and Matt Clark '04 finished under 1:50 in the 200 freestyle event for the first time on the season, while fellow co-captain Andrew Sterling '03 put out a strong showing in a rare appearance in the 200 butterfly. Adam Rahal '05 won the 200 individual medley in personal best fashion to round out the team's performances in the sprints.

> Many members of the women's team competed in their last meet of the season. These swimmers and divers put on their best performances of the year.

The Middlebury men's and women's swimming and diving teams also took on Williams on Feb. 1 and came away with some good results despite the score. The women were defeated 184-116.

Emily Egan '06 was ecstatic with her sister Kellianne Egan's '04 "outrageously good win in the 1650. Our family and team was so happy for her." Lizzy DeWitt '04 had an outstanding day with wins in the 500, 200 and 100 yard freestyle events, while Alyson Lipsky '03 wrapped up Middlebury's domination in freestyle with her 50-yard victory. The men lost 254-79 though Clark, Jason Korsmeyer '05, and Alex Demas '06 had standout performances.

The women's team will head off to the NESCAC Championships from Feb. 21-23, while the men's event will be held the following week from Feb. 28 toMarch 2. Both teams will look to represent Middlebury well with strong first-year classes and a great core of veterans that have been to big meets in the past.

Vlad Lodoaba

As swimmers prepare for a race on Feb. 1, the team is now getting ready for the NESCAC Championships to be held in the upcoming weeks.

Nordic Speeding Up As Season Intensifies

By Josh Axelrod
Staff Writer

With temperatures becoming tolerable, and February break beginning on campus, Middlebury's nordic ski team has been busy with weekly carnivals. Action started off last weekend in Stowe, Vt., where the Panthers raced to excellent finishes at the University of Vermont Carnival.

The women began the Carnival with a 10-kilometer classical race. Skiing with incredible consistency, Kate Newick '04 led the Panther charge with a sixth-place finish. She was closely followed by fellow teammates Diana Johnson '05 in 10th place and Kate Whitcomb '04 in 12th place. Taylor Leach '06 and Berkley Leach '04 rounded out Middlebury's showing in the top 30 while Claire Anderson '06 finished in 36th place. When the snow settled and the results were in, Middlebury's women had won the day.

On the men's side, skiing the same distance as the women, Garrot Kuzzy '06 again led the Panthers with a fantastic fifth place finish. Close behind him was Colin Rodgers '04, skiing to a ninth place finish. Captain Tim Weston '03 finished in 13th spot. Jake Whitcomb '06, Bryce Roche '05 and Marshall Greene '04 all finished in the next eight places behind Weston, proving that Middlebury's men are a force to be reckoned with, and they are continuing to ski faster as the season progresses.

> Middlebury's men are a force to be reckoned with, and they are continuing to ski faster as the season progresses.

Day two began with the women's three-by-five kilometer freestyle relays. Middlebury's A-team of Newick, Johnson and Whitcomb just edged Middlebury's B-team for fifth place. The Leach sisters and Anderson skied to an impressive sixth-place finish, well ahead of many A-teams in the Eastern Intercollegiate Ski Association (EISA).

Coming off impressive results from the day before and hoping to improve on its third-place overall finish, the men's A-team consisting of Rodgers, Whitcomb, and Kuzzy set out to defeat UVM and steal its glory at home. Rodgers began with a lightning fast 5-kilometer leg, putting Middlebury far out into the lead. Whitcomb was caught later in the second leg, and Kuzzy battled for position throughout his race but was unable to overcome UVM, as it finished about 100 meters ahead of Middlebury, giving the Panthers a very solid and dramatic second-place finish. Not far behind in seventh place, Weston, Roche, and Greene completed Middlebury's results.

After the UVM carnival, Head Coach Terry Aldrich decided it would be wise for the team to be rested before traveling to Oak Hill ski area outside Hanover, N.H., for the Dartmouth Carnival and also a preview of the race courses that will be used for this year's NCAA National competitions.

The women began the day with a 5-kilometer skate around the skiable yet challenging Oak Hill course. Newick led Middlebury yet again with a fifth-place finish. Skiing strong and relaxed, Johnson finish in 11th place followed closely by Whitcomb in 12th place. Anderson and the Leaches all finished in the top 30 yet again for Middlebury.

On the men's side fast snow and a fun course resulted in more excellent results for the Panthers in the 10-kilometer freestyle. Rodgers led Middlebury with an amazing third-place finish, just three seconds out of second place. Back a ways and feeling a little tired, Kuzzy still came up big with a ninth-place effort followed closely by Whitcomb in 11th place. Weston, Greene and Roche all finished in the top 30 for the Panthers.

Day two featured the much anticipated 15-kilometer mass start classical race for the women on the challenging 7.5-kilometer Oak Hill course. Whitcomb led the Panthers out of the stadium in second place followed closely by Newick and Johnson. Over the next lap and a half, Newick took over the Panther lead finishing in a solid eighth place followed im-

(see Rodgers, page 21)

Courtesy Photo

The Nordic ski team came up with a strong third-place finish at the Dartmouth Carnival last weekend.

Old Foe Haunts Women's Puck, New Rivals Emerge

By Peter Yordan
Assistant Sports Editor

After running off seven straight games without a loss in January, the Middlebury women's hockey team hit a rough patch of ice last week, surrendering a loss to non-conference rival Manhattanville before defeating Gustavus Adolphus and Trinity and tying lowly Wesleyan. With three games remaining in the regular season, the Panthers will now look to steady themselves and regroup for the final push into the postseason.

Women's Hockey

Saturday, February 1st

Middlebury	0
Manhattanville	1

Saturday, February 8th

Middlebury	2
Wesleyan	2

Though Middlebury's Feb. 1 game against Manhattanville matched them up against a non-conference opponent, the recent history between the two teams provided more than enough incentive for the Panthers to come out fighting. It was Manhattanville who last year stopped Middlebury's historic seven-year Division III undefeated steak by handing the team an embarrassing 4-1 loss. The team went into the game looking for vengeance, but found themselves unable to crack the stern Valiants' defense in a tense struggle between two of the nation's top teams.

Neither team could muster much of an offensive at the start, as the two combined for only 11 shots on goal in the scoreless first period. Middlebury upped the pressure in the second, piling on 11 shots on goal, but Manhattanville hung on against the Panther onslaught to keep the game knotted at zero going into the second intermission. With the game this tight going into the final 20 minutes, both sides knew one goal could be decisive. Unfortunately, as the clock wound down in the third period, Middlebury paid for its inability to find the net when Manhattanville scored with 12 minutes remaining to take a 1-0 lead. Middlebury fought for an equalizer before time ran out, but not even a final powerplay for the last minute and a half of the period let them find any offense, and the team left the ice with its second loss of the season.

Middlebury worked out its frustration two days later by humiliating Gustavus Adolphus 7-0. The offense that was nonexistent against Manhattanville reappeared to devastating effect right from the drop of the puck. Assistant Captain Angela Kapus '03 scored twice in the opening period, and the Panthers scored four in total — three on the powerplay — to take a commanding lead. After taking a breather in the second, the Panthers scored three more times in the final 20 minutes to close out the game, with Kapus, the league leader in points scored, notching another goal to complete her hat trick.

Four days later Middlebury brutalized hapless Trinity for a second consecutive 7-0 victory. Two goal braces by both Erin Neil '03 and Lorna Gifis '05 led the team's offense, and Amber Neil '03 tallied her team-leading 17th goal of the year as the Panthers outshot their underpowered opponents 60-7 in the lopsided affair.

The team, however, could not maintain its momentum against another lightly regarded league rival, Wesleyan. Middlebury had easily defeated Wesleyan 7-0 early in the year, but this time they struggled to a 2-2 tie. The Cardinals drew first blood, beating the Middlebury defense to score 10 minutes into the game on one of their only two shots of the period. Wesleyan scored again in the second period to put the Panthers down 2-0, and going into the second intermission Middlebury found itself with a long way to go to avoid its most embarrassing loss in years.

As Wesleyan, taking stock of the stunning upset brewing, bunkered in to protect its lead with 20 minutes to play, Middlebury came out fighting. Erin Neil scored with 12 minutes remaining to cut the lead in half, but as the clock ticked down the second goal proved elusive. Finally, with only 45 seconds on the clock, Gifis managed to slip the puck by the Cardinals goaltender to save the team and send the game to overtime. The extra five minutes proved uneventful, and Middlebury had to content themselves with a rather lucky tie. With their regular season swiftly coming to a close, the Panthers will need to find some consistency before the postseason.

File Photo/Julia Randall

Hannah DeLong '05 carries the puck in an earlier game. The Panthers lost their third of the season over the break.

Don't Miss...
Men's Hockey vs. Trinity
Friday, February 14, 7:00 p.m.
What to Watch in Middlebury Sports

By David Lindholm
Sports Editor

The last time Trinity faced Middlebury in men's hockey, the Bantams jumped out to a 2-0 lead at Kenyon Arena before Kevin Cooper '04 came up with a hat trick to give the Panthers a dramatic 3-2 win. Anyone remember that game? It was the New England Small College Athletic College (NESCAC) Championship, held on March 3 of last year, and it ended Trinity's season.

The Bantams will return to the site of last year's crushing loss this Friday, and there is sure to be no love lost between the two teams in this Valentine's Day battle. Middlebury is sitting alone at the top of the NESCAC standings with a 13-1-1 league record, whereas Trinity lies in second place at 12-2-1. The Panthers won both meetings last year, both by the same 3-2 score, but in the only meeting of the two teams in the 2000-2001 season, the scoreline was reversed for a Bantam victory. That game, on January 6, 2001, was the last time Middlebury lost to a NESCAC foe.

The Panthers (16-3-1) will be looking to get back on track after a surprising 1-1 tie with Amherst on Saturday, whereas Trinity (13-4-2) is coming off a 6-0 thumping of Skidmore. The Amherst game ended a 13-game Middlebury winning streak, but the Panthers still haven't lost a game in 2003.

"Trinity is a very good team," said Head Coach Neil Sinclair, who expects to face an organized and talented offense. "They are very dangerous in transition and on the power play [which is] operating at 30 percent." The Panthers will be watching out for a trio of Bantam sophomores, as Jeffrey Natale and Joseph Ori will lead the offense and Douglas Kiselius has been providing "solid goaltending," according to Sinclair. The coach also will be looking from big goals from his goalscoring trio, Cooper, Tim Schneider '06, and Tim Graham '05, as well as leadership from his captains. In any event, Sinclair knows he can count on one thing for certain: "It should be an exciting game."

Men's Hoops Rejected in 3-Loss Week

By Matt Ross
Staff Writer

The Panthers had an up-and-down February break, going 2-3 and 2-2 in New England Small Colleges Athletic Association (NESCAC) play. With two games left before the NESCAC tournament, the team is 13-9 overall and 2-5 in the league.

The Panthers started the week hot, burying Colby 86-67. Middlebury let an early 8-0 lead slip away before establishing a 14 point halftime lead. The team never looked back. Captain Eric Bundonis '03 led the team with a career-high 29 points. The win marked Middlebury's 12th of the season, the most wins in a season since '92-'93.

Men's Basketball

Friday, February 7th

Middlebury	98
Wesleyan	106

Saturday, February 8th

Middlebury	64
Connecticut College	84

The momentum helped carry the Panthers to a close 82-80 victory over Bowdoin. Middlebury trailed by two at the half despite allowing the Polar Bears to shoot 50 percent from the field. The lead ballooned to 20 with 10:36 left in the game before Nate Anderson '04 sparked a stunning comeback that was sealed by his own lay-up that put the team ahead by two with four seconds remaining. When Bowdoin's Mark Yakovonis missed a potential game-winning shot at the buzzer Middlebury had all but secured themself a berth in the NESCAC tournament. With 34 and 21 points respectively and 10 rebounds apiece, Anderson and Bundonis carried the Panthers in a game where the team shot only 39 percent from the field and was out-rebounded 41-33. Anderson's performance earned him NESCAC Player of the Week honors.

Despite losing 111-75 to the University of Vermont, the game gave the Panthers a chance to test themselves against the best competition the state has to offer and to spread the ball around. Each player saw some action and all but three made their way onto the scoreboard.

After the breather from NESCAC play Middlebury returned to the league against a very evenly-matched Wesleyan squad. Wesleyan controlled the tempo in the first half, holding the Panthers to only 36 points and establishing a 10-point lead. Middlebury turned up the heat in the second half, taking 78 shots and scoring 62 points, but the Cardinals held off the charge by shooting 58 percent from the field on their way to a 106-98 victory. The game was a huge blow to Middlebury as it denied them a chance to pull even with Wesleyan in the NESCAC standings, and give them the tiebreaker needed to vault Middlebury into the top half of the league. It would have also given it a shot at pulling ahead of Bates and Tufts in the league. Such a streak would have garnered Middlebury a home game in the tournament.

The let down against Wesleyan seemed to follow the team into the game against bottom-dwelling Connecticut College. By the end of the first half Connecticut College (previously 0-6 in the NESCAC) had established a 4-point lead, holding the Panthers to just 27 points. Middlebury managed to hang in the game and hoped to shake off the Wesleyan defeat in the second half, but the poor play only got worse as Connecticut added 53 points to its total and 16 to its lead to win 84-64.

While the Panthers viewed both of the last two games as must-win, they are still in a position to make some noise in the NESCAC tournament. Even without winning either of its last two games, Middlebury would likely make the league tournament as Connecticut College would have to beat either Amherst or Trinity just to match Middlebury's league win total. Colby and Bowdoin play in what amounts to an elimination game on Saturday as Middlebury would hold the tiebreaker against the loser of the match-up. However, entering the tournament on a four-game losing streak to play one of the league's top two teams on the road is not a desirable outcome.

Another win assures Middlebury a place in the tournament, but would not improve its seed beyond seven. The best outcome for Middlebury includes wins against both Bates and Tufts, which would give the team a 4-5 record in the league. These wins would vault Middlebury ahead of Bates should the Bobcats lose to Williams on Friday. There is also a chance that, with the correct tiebreakers, these wins coupled with losses by Wesleyan to Trinity and Amherst could lift Middlebury as high as fifth in the league. Anything less than winning would leave Middlebury with a game at Williams, Amherst or Trinity. With two wins Middlebury can avoid playing the top two seeds in the NESCAC in the first round, and enter the tournament with momentum and confidence. The games against Tufts and Bates will be held on Friday and Saturday afternoon.

Men's Hockey Stutters at Amherst, Yet Streak Stays Alive

Schuyler Van Horn

Goaltender Yen-I Chen '05 eyes a shot in practice on Tuesday. Chen was in net for the 7-4 win over Hamilton.

By Andreas Apostolatos
Staff Writer

While many Middlebury students enjoyed the weeklong February recess, the Middlebury men's hockey team was hard at work continuing its winning ways. The Panthers played three games during the week of Feb. 1-8 and triumphed over Babson and Hamilton and tied Amherst. The Panthers (16-3-1, 13-1-1 NESCAC) have now not lost a game since Dec. 7, and currently ride a 14-game undefeated streak.

Most importantly, Middlebury's dominance has carried it into first place in the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) standings. Trinity, which previously sat atop the league, did not have a successful time in Maine during the weekend of Jan. 31-Feb. 1, when they were beaten by both Bowdoin and Colby. Trinity's losses to the two NESCAC rivals allowed Middlebury to gain a first-place ranking with a 7-4 win against Hamilton on Feb. 7.

Against Hamilton, the Panthers scored the first four goals of the game, which turned out to be quite a high-scoring affair. Middlebury was lead by Tim Graham '05, who scored a hat trick with one goal in the second period, and two in the third.

Men's Hockey

Friday, February 7th

Middlebury	7
Hamilton	4

Saturday, February 8th

Middlebury	1
Amherst	1

The following day, the Panthers traveled to Amherst for their second straight game against a NESCAC opponent. Middlebury managed to break through first behind a power-play goal by Kevin Cooper '04 with 14:03 remaining in the first period. The game's second and final goal came in the second session, when Amherst tied the score during a power play of its own. While a 1-1 deadlock is certainly better than a loss, the Panthers could not help but be slightly dissatisfied with the result against the sixth-place team that they should have beaten.

"We feel like we need to refocus for the final regular season stretch run. We may have become a bit complacent in the last couple of weeks and that resulted in some uninspired play last weekend. It's a long season and it is difficult to keep your energy up for the entire run," commented team captain Rob Chisholm '03.

"We remain confident that we can be in the thick of it come playoffs but realize that it is time

(see Midd, page 20)

Bumpy Trip Ends with Camel Crushing

By Emily Berlanstein
Staff Writer

A vital league victory last weekend against Connecticut College has put the Panther women's basketball team back on the winning track. Coming off a five-game losing streak, Middlebury pounded Connecticut, 73-53, behind 18 points from Kristin Hanley '03. The attack was well-rounded in this contest, as Elyse Carlson '05 and Alexis Hollinger '05 contributed 15 points and 12 points, respectively. The win drops Connecticut to last place in the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC), while Middlebury remains in the middle of the pack at sixth place with a 3-4 league record. It seems that the Panthers will undoubtedly partake in the eight-team postseason tournament, which begins on Feb. 22.

Although the Panthers suffered several recent losses, there were numerous highlights for the team in the past few weeks. Against top-ranked St. Lawrence, Hanley scored 20 points and had 13 rebounds, Hollinger added 11 points and 12 rebounds and Wesley Hyatt '03 scored 10. The Panthers came within four points at halftime, but, while their shooting percentage stayed fairly even throughout the second half at just under 30 percent, St. Lawrence's offense successfully shot its way to a 51-44 win, capitalizing on several fast break situations.

Women's Basketball

Friday, February 7th

Middlebury	50
Wesleyan	54

Saturday, February 8th

Middlebury	73
Connecticut College	53

Despite 20 turnovers against Colby, the Panthers played a strong second half but eventually fell, 77-60. Alexis Batten '04 led scorers with 12 points, Hyatt contributed 11 and Hanley and Carlson 10 each.

Against NESCAC leader Bowdoin, the Panthers held the Polar Bears to 25 percent shooting from the floor in the second half. Unfortunately, their 46 percent average in the first half still propelled them to a 64-54 win. Hyatt scored 15 points in the contest and Batten added 14 points and 11 rebounds.

In a heartbreaker against Hamilton, the Panthers were up by as many as 16 points but ultimately fell to the Continentals 61-56. Hanley had 18 points and 12 rebounds for the Panthers and Batten also contributed an impressive 18 points and 11 re-

(see Women's, page 20)

Vlad Lodoaba

Middlebury players try to get open for a pass from first-year guard Maryanne Verzosa in the Panthers' 61-56 loss against Hamilton.

NESCAC Presidents Unanimous in Opposition to Athletics Survey

By David Lindholm
Sports Editor

The presidents of the 11 colleges and universities that make up the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) have decided to decline a request made by *U.S. News & World Report* to release statistical information on their athletic programs. The unanimous decision, made at a Dec. 18, 2002, meeting, was explained in a statement released on Tuesday by Norman Fainstein, president of Connecticut College and chair of the NESCAC presidents.

The Presidents' decision was influenced by the implications of submitting such information, as well as misinformation on the part of *U.S. News & World Report*. The 11 schools were first informed that the publication was creating an NCAA Division III ranking system. Later, the schools were told the information would be offered on *U.S. News & World Report's* website as a "service to readers." However, the presidents were wary of agreeing to give the information with no assurance that a ranking system would not be created.

"The NESCAC has been committed to a balanced and proportionate approach to college athletics, one in which intercollegiate competition, intramural play, physical education and fitness programs are viewed within the context of a liberal education aimed at the development of the whole student," the statement said. "In recent years, the NESCAC presidents have implemented a process of study and discussion to ensure that NESCAC colleges remain true to our principles."

The statement was strong in its opposition not only to providing *U.S. News & World Report* with the information, but also toward the publication's possible intent to assess Division III athletic programs.

"Efforts by *U.S. News* and other enterprises to evaluate or rank our athletic programs raise serious concerns for us with regard both to the validity of such rankings and to their effect in influencing our own priorities," the statement continued. "We believe that the present 'data collection' process undertaken by *U.S. News* may well result in a publication that ranks college athletic programs [and] we are strongly opposed to such an undertaking."

Finally, the presidents used the statement to "state publicly our wish not to be included in any assessment by *U.S. News* of NCAA Division III athletic programs." Without the NESCAC, *U.S. News* would be left with an incomplete ranking system, or be forced to go against the will of the 11 schools. Information on what statistics U.S. News was requesting was not released.